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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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Livestock, Poultry Production Restraint Urged by Secretary

Secretary Freeman recently told a conference of livestock and poultry industry leaders and representatives of general farm organizations that large grain supplies this fall pose a threat of overexpansion in the production of livestock and poultry products this year.

The group was convened at the Department at his invitation.

Pointing out that the prices hog producers get in 1968 rest on the breeding decisions they are making right now, Secretary Freeman stressed the need for livestock and poultry producers to show restraint during the year and keep their production in line with demand.

"If they do," he said, "farmers can look forward to favorable livestock and poultry prices. But if the line is not held—and production expands—a further substantial decline in prices is certain to occur."

The Secretary urged producers to resist the temptation to expand production because grain prices are temporarily low.

The drop in grain prices, he said, was directly attributable to bumper grain crops here and around the world last year.

The Secretary outlined the corrective actions that have been taken by the USDA to check price drops, first citing the fact that the 1968 Wheat and Feed Grain programs are designed to restore a better balance between production and use.

He said other strong actions taken by the Department last year to build up farmers' holding power and bolster grain prices have included:

- urging farmers to use the loan and stressing use of the resale program. For the first time resale is authorized for commercial warehouse-stored grains.

- pushing exports by establishing export targets and by sending five missions abroad to promote the sale of U.S. farm commodities.

Turning to actions taken by the Department to improve livestock and dairy prices, the Secretary pointed to:



Assistant Secretary Joseph M. Robertson, center, was presented the National Award of the National Association of State and County Office Employees at the group's annual meeting in Wichita, Kans. He received the award from Woodrow Jones, right, president, and Raymond Vanderhorst, vice president, for the "fair and forthright manner in which he has dealt with the association in all matters within the sphere of his office." The group is composed of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service employees.

- the expenditures of \$469 million for surplus removal purchases of meat and poultry products and dairy price supports;

- the current purchase of cull laying hens;

- increased Class I milk prices;

- action by President Johnson to close dairy import loopholes;

- expanded Food Stamp Program by 650,000 persons a month.

"But," the Secretary said, "the critical moment is now at hand." Feed grain output jumped to a new record in 1967—up 12 percent from 1966. Given the best results on grain prices, we must still assume they will be on the low side for the first part of 1968," he said.

Drawing on history, Secretary Freeman pointed out that producers have responded to similar conditions in the past by sharply expanding their output of hogs, cattle feeding, poultry, and eggs.

"If livestock producers react again as they have in the past," the Secretary said, "meat production will increase sharply in 1968. This will mean sharply lower livestock and poultry prices."

The Secretary said the Department will continue to do everything in its

Leonard New Administrator Of C&MS, Smith Retiring

Secretary Freeman has designated *Rodney E. Leonard*, 38, administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service. He replaces *S. R. Smith* who is retiring from Government service.

Since March 1966 Leonard has been Deputy Assistant Secretary for consumer and marketing services.

Born in Eureka, Kans., Leonard is a 1951 graduate of Kansas State, with graduate work at the University of Minnesota. He is an Army veteran of the Korean conflict. He is a former aide to the Governor of Minnesota.

The retiring administrator entered the Department in 1934 as an agricultural economist. During World War II he served as deputy director for civilian programs in the War Food Administration and after the war was named director of the Fruit and Vegetable Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration.

He received the Department's Distinguished Service Award in 1956 and was named administrator of what is now C&MS in June 1961.

He is an economics graduate of the University of Montana, with graduate work at the University of California.

\$37 Million Saved for People

Consumer and Marketing Service transportation services in fiscal 1967 resulted in about \$37 million in calculable savings to farmers and consumers from successful support of downward rate adjustments and opposition to proposed increases.

There was a significant increase—an average of 21 percent—in the number of proposals and cases received and reviewed with respect to rate and service adjustments before carrier bureaus and regulatory agencies.

power to strengthen grain and livestock prices and said the cut in grain acreages programmed for 1968 "assure an improvement in grain prices."

Freeman Challenges Youth To Do Humanitarian Work

Secretary Freeman recently challenged young people to take a leadership role in meeting the problems of world hunger abroad and revitalizing rural areas in the United States.

He spoke at the 46th National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago.

Commending the involvement of U.S. 4-H Clubs in the War on Hunger, the Secretary said, "Yet I would challenge you to do even more, to give more of yourselves to this humanitarian—and deeply practical—effort. If enough of you do this, I have no doubt future historians will write of your generation, 'This was the age that abolished hunger from the face of the earth.'"

The second great challenge facing young people, Freeman said, was revitalizing rural America.

"Today," he said, "70 percent of our people are crowded into just one percent of our land. A majority of our population—more than a hundred million—live in and around the 224 largest cities, which are growing at a rate three times that of non-metropolitan areas.

"By the year 2000, 300 million Americans will live on the same number of square miles that 200 million live on today. If present trends are not reversed, 80 percent of these new Americans will live in and around the great cities, in conditions of incredible congestion and pollution."

He noted that "177 young men in rural America now reach working age for every 100 rural jobs opening up." New jobs will have to be created, he said, and along with them, "the quality schools, technical training, recreation facilities . . . housing and medical care that new industry requires before locating in a rural community."

Meeting the challenge of world hunger and rural/urban population balance, he said, "is not primarily a technical problem, it is a social, political, and human problem.

"We know how to grow enough food to feed a world population many times present size. We have the technology to revitalize rural America. We have the resources to provide every American with a decent living and a quality diet . . . but do we have the will? Do we have the skill to use the know-how?

"This is a human, not a technical equation, and it is the greatest question of our time."

CROPS FROM ONE OUT OF FOUR harvested acres in the United States move into export. Exports account for about 17 percent of farmers' marketing income.



USDA-Sponsored Tokyo Exhibit Plans Are Developing Rapidly

Plans are rapidly developing in the Department for the USDA-sponsored America Festival scheduled April 5-21, 1968, in Tokyo, the Foreign Agricultural Service reports.

The festival, the largest agricultural exhibition ever staged by the United States in the Far East, was announced in July by Secretary Freeman.

The exhibition, FAS says, is designed to strengthen Japan's goodwill toward U.S. agricultural products and to promote an exchange of trade ideas between the United States and Japan.

The American festival is expected to bring several hundred American visitors to Japan where they will see first-hand how U.S. agricultural products are promoted and accepted in a major foreign competitive market. As a special feature of the festival to encourage Americans to attend, a private tour agency in cooperation with USDA has arranged a low-cost, 15-day tour to Japan April 6-20.

The tour will feature guided visits through Toyko and nine other Japanese cities including Osaka, Okayama, Atami, and Kyoto. Tour members also will visit a typical Japanese farm. USDA field personnel interested in tour details should contact *Pete Keay* in the International Trade Fair Division of FAS, DU 8-4192, Washington, D.C.

As the largest foreign agricultural customer of the United States, Japan purchases about \$1 billion in farm products yearly, an amount which represents one-third of Japan's total farm imports. Since 1961, Japan has imported annually from the United States the output of about 11 million acres of American farmland. Top selling commodities to the Japanese are feed grains, soybeans, wheat, and flour.

COMPUTER SAVES \$3 MILLION IN ROAD-BUILDING COSTS

Forest highway engineers have taken the computer as a partner, and the partnership is expected to save taxpayers millions of dollars each year in public road-building costs, according to Secretary Freeman.

Citing a report from Chief *Edward P. Cliff* of the Forest Service, the Secretary said the Forest Service estimates its new computer program to make road designing easier and less expensive has saved an estimated \$3 million in the first year of operation.

On most construction jobs, particularly in mountain country, the major job is moving dirt—cutting down hills and filling in dips. The questions are how much to move and where to move it. Errors in answering either of these questions can skyrocket costs and cause problems with design.

This is where the computer comes in. According to Cliff's report, previous design methods of cutting into hills and filling low areas for a good roadbed took as much as 4 months of advance calculation by engineers. Considerable trial and error occurred before the final determination of grade could be made.

With the new computer program, it is possible to analyze all the variations in grade, earth excavation, and filling to determine the best and least expensive construction project, according to the report.

Secretary Freeman Extends RAD Advisory Committee

Secretary Freeman has extended for 2 years the National Advisory Committee on Rural Areas Development, renaming 30 members to the committee and adding two others.

The committee, first appointed by Secretary Freeman in November 1961, advises the Secretary on ways the Federal Government can help rural people in the nationwide rural areas development (RAD) movement, meets with heads of USDA agencies working with local RAD committees to suggest ways and means of more effectively involving local people in RAD activities, and recommends ways to bring into maximum use local, State, and Federal resources which can help in the total RAD effort.

The two new members are *George M. Barthel*, farmer, Ellenville, N.Y.; and *Van B. Brindley*, Blount County Soil and Water Conservation District, Oneonta, Ala.

New Law Gives TAPERs Chance to Acquire Status

The President has approved a law which will give an estimated 20,000 temporary Federal employees (TAPERs) the opportunity to acquire career status. Certain other employees with indefinite appointments will be similarly benefited. The law goes into effect February 8, 1968.

A TAPER appointment is made when no register of eligibles appropriate to fill the vacant job is in existence, and the job is filled by a person selected by the appointing officer. Often, a long time elapses before a suitable examination is announced. TAPERs and certain other employees with indefinite appointments have been able to continue serving under these conditions, but have been unable to qualify for career status with its attendant benefits such as tenure and retirement rights.

The new law provides a permanent solution to the problem.

To qualify, an employee must be serving in a position in the competitive service. Excluded are employees in GS-16, 17, and 18 positions, employees serving under overseas limited appointments, rural carriers, and postmasters.

An employee must have been in the position for at least 3 years without a break in service of more than 30 days.

The employee must meet Civil Service Commission qualification requirements for his position, and pass a suitable non-competitive examination. Most such examinations are evaluations of experience and training.

The employing agency must recommend to the CSC within 90 days of meeting the service requirements that the employee be given career status, and must certify that his work has been satisfactory during the preceding 12 months.

If employees other than postal employees fail to qualify, their agency must terminate their appointments.

For employees who have completed the required 3 years of service before February 8, the 90-day period begins on that date.

If an employee falls short of the service required for conversion as of February 8, he will have the opportunity to qualify as soon as he completes 3 years of service.

The law does not apply for former employees. It benefits only employees who are working on the effective date of the law who are otherwise eligible, and future employees.

In the case of a temporary employee leaving his job to serve in the Armed Forces if he is re-employed within 120 days of honorable discharge, the whole



Cows that keep "cool heads" during long, hot summers give more milk than cows that do not, a Department study shows. In tests, cows gave 15 to 20 percent more milk when their heads and necks were held in enclosures cooled to 60° F. than when they were housed in an 85° F. barn. This study of how various temperatures affect milk production in hot climates was conducted by agricultural engineer G. LeRoy Hahn of the Agricultural Research Service, in cooperation with the University of Missouri, Columbia.

INSPECTORS HAVE BUSY YEAR

Mangos declared to be lemon drops, a raw potato atop a car radio antenna, and a sandwich full of seeds were among the potentially dangerous items agricultural inspectors intercepted at the Nation's ports in 1967.

Agricultural quarantine inspectors of the Agricultural Research Service have the important task of keeping destructive foreign plant and animal pests and diseases out of the United States. Working with customs officials, inspectors examine incoming travelers' baggage, cargo, freight, mail, cars, planes, and ships for prohibited agricultural items. Such items often harbor foreign pests which could cause enormous damage to U.S. crops, livestock, forests, lawns, gardens, and ornamental shrubs. In fiscal 1967, inspectors stopped an inbound foreign pest on an average of every 13 minutes.

Of the 587,530 prohibited items seized and destroyed, more than half were fruits, meats, plants, and similar agricultural products carried by travelers.

During the fiscal year which ended June 30, agricultural inspectors and customs officials examined a total of more than 48 million pieces of baggage and almost 57 million incoming mail packages. Other sources of intercepted items were ship and airplane stores.

period is counted toward the 3-year length of service requirement.

The law repeals the numerical ceiling on the number of persons who may hold career appointments.

Department Goes Into Action On Wholesome Meat Act

Secretary Freeman has announced that the Department is taking steps necessary for immediate implementation of the Wholesome Meat Act signed recently by the President.

"Our main aim is to get compliance immediately in plants brought under Federal inspection to make sure that meat products prepared in these plants are sanitary and wholesome," the Secretary said.

The principal persons immediately affected are:

- * Those who prepare carcasses of cattle, sheep, swine, goats, or horses into wholesale cuts or smaller pieces for distribution in interstate or foreign commerce (known in the meat industry as boners and cutters); and

- * Persons engaged in slaughtering or meat product preparation in the District of Columbia or any unorganized territory of the United States.

Those who will be affected 60 days after enactment of the new law are principally:

- * Retail butchers and retail dealers currently holding certificates of exemption from Federal meat inspection.

Other steps being taken by the Department to implement the Act include:

- * Authorizing district directors to receive applications for Federal inspection and grant Federal inspection, as a way to speed coverage of the law to plants brought under Federal inspection the first time.

- * Allowing district directors to hire the inspectors needed for new plants that are coming under Federal inspection.

- * Notifying operators of plants affected immediately by the new law. The plants are being instructed on how they are affected by the law, and given information on how to apply for and obtain Federal inspection.

- * Developing the Secretary's advisory committee and the program and planning committees composed of State and Federal officials, as required by the new law. The committees are established by the Wholesome Meat Act to help achieve full cooperation among State and Federal officials in making sure all meat is wholesome, whether it is sold only within a State or across State lines.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's February list. Plentifuls are *broiler-fryers, potatoes, dairy products, and dry split peas*. No particular commodity is featured this month.

HONORS

Dr. Harold P. Lundgren, research chemist at the Agricultural Research Service's western regional research laboratory, Albany, Calif., has been elected a Foreign Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences in Stockholm. Oldest of its kind, this academy of 200 members, including 40 in foreign countries, recognizes and rewards scientific achievement in engineering, chemistry, physics, and various biotechnical sciences. Operating under the patronage of the King, the academy frequently advises the Swedish Government. Dr. Lundgren's special field is protein chemistry. He is chief of the Wool and Mohair Laboratory at the Albany research center.

* * * * *

Two Agricultural Research Service veterinarians recently received the 1967 Albert Schweitzer Medals from the Animal Welfare Institute. The medals, presented annually for outstanding contributions in animal welfare, were awarded Dr. Francis J. Mulhern, deputy administrator for regulatory and control, and Dr. Earl M. Jones, senior staff veterinarian, laboratory animals, Animal Health Division, for implementing the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act.

* * * * *

Doctors Ivan A. Wolff and George A. White, Agricultural Research Service, have been awarded the American Society of Agronomy award for excellence in agricultural journalism. The award is presented for the best article published in the society's magazine "Crops and Soils." The winning two-part article concerned crambe, a new crop being developed for U.S. farmers and industry. Dr. White wrote the first part, and Dr. Wolff wrote the second.

* * * * *

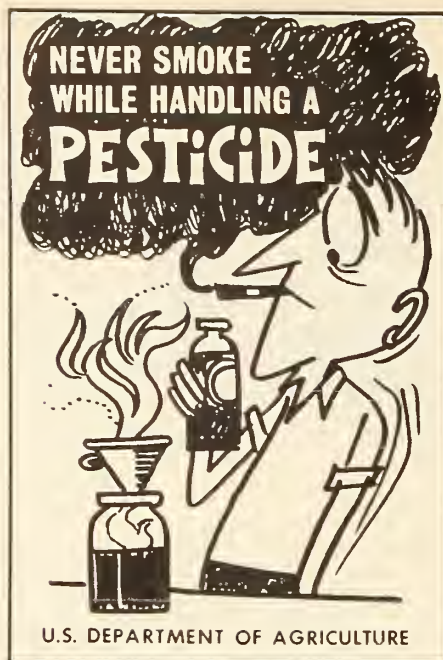
Dr. Ruth R. Benerito, of USDA's Southern Utilization Research and Development Division, has been honored by the Federal Executive Association of New Orleans as the outstanding Civil Servant of the Year for that area in the professional and scientific category. The association cited Dr. Benerito for "distinguished service to the profession of chemistry during the past 20 years as a brilliant research scientist and inspiring and untiring leader of research."

GIVE BLOOD

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APPOINTMENTS

Attaché—John C. McDonald of the District of Columbia has been appointed agricultural attaché in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He will replace Jerome M. Kuhl, who will return to Washington for assignment. McDonald arrived in Rio de Janeiro in early September for an intensive course in the Portuguese language.

* * * * *

ASC State Committeemen—Secretary Freeman recently appointed Robert J. Smith of Manly as a new member of the Iowa Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) State Committee. He succeeds Maurice O'Reilly of Barnum, who has resigned. Smith has been engaged in farming for most of his life and has operated his own farm since 1949. He has had wide experience in purchasing and marketing livestock and grain in the family farm operation. Smith has served as an ASC community committeeman, and has been a member of the Iowa Farmers Union for 10 years.

In addition, the Secretary appointed Henry F. Lesch, Apache, Okla., a member of the Oklahoma Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) State Committee. Lesch grows wheat and cotton on several farm tracts in Caddo County, and has a herd of Angus cattle. He has been a member of his community ASC committee for 6 years, and is a director of the Farmers Union. He is a former director of the Apache Farmers Co-op.

SALES PROMOTION WILL PLAY BIG COTTON PROGRAM ROLE

Consumer and Marketing Service says about \$5.3 million, or two-thirds of the \$8 million cotton program for 1968, will be devoted to sales promotion.

More than 85 percent of these funds will be channeled to advertising in printed publications—principally national magazines and daily newspapers. Some other promotion projects are television programs, fabric libraries, retail sales training, and fashion shows.

Of the \$8 million, C&MS said, \$6.5 million will come from an assessment of \$1 per bale from upland cotton producers, and the other \$1.5 million will be from funds transferred from the old Cotton Producers Institute to a newly reconstituted one.

The research program for 1968 includes projects relating to almost all areas of cotton research—insects, diseases, weeds, yields, quality, mechanization, processing, marketing, mill processing and finishing, quality improvement of consumer products, product development, and cottonseed.

The largest expenditure of research funds, however, will be for product development and improvement.

New Technologies Are Secret Of Abundance, Says Mehren

"The prompt application of new technologies has been the genius and the secret of our agricultural abundance," according to Dr. George L. Mehren, assistant secretary.

"It would be impossible without our three-way combination of education, research, and extension," he recently told the National Council of University Research Administrators meeting in Washington, D.C.

USDA and the State land-grant universities, along with their agricultural experiment stations and Cooperative Extension Services, make sure that agricultural research knowledge is never left to gather dust in the laboratory, he said.

Dr. Mehren went on to describe the Federal-State cooperation in agricultural education, extension, and research that has been going on for more than 100 years. He noted that the projections being formulated by Federal, State, and private agencies will continue this cooperation into the year 2000 and beyond.

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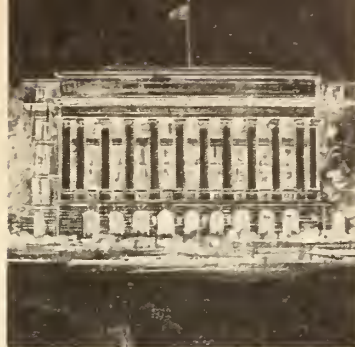
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USDA

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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW . . . A PRIMARY MISSION

One of the primary USDA missions today—one which commits the full resources of the Department—is helping people build “communities of tomorrow” that measure up to ideals of life, dignity, and opportunity for the people.

“Communities of tomorrow” is the theme of an integral part of the Department’s work of preparing for the future while meeting the needs of the present, symbolized by its hallmark, Agriculture/2000.

Caddo County, Okla., is an example of an area in which the Department’s locally-based agencies, and other Federal agencies, are helping the people build communities of tomorrow.

Because of its development efforts, the county is helping stem the flow of people from the countryside to the city. From 1935 to 1960, the county lost an average of 108 farmers a year. This began to level off in 1960, and came to a halt by 1965. Within the past 2 years the county has gained about 3,000 people.

Today, 70 percent of the people in the United States are living on 1.2 percent of the Nation’s land—most of them in urban areas. In too many cases, they are engulfed in or surrounded by pollution, crime, chaos, congestion, confusion. Many of these people, including some from Caddo County, moved from the countryside to the city in search of jobs—opportunities to make things better for themselves and their families. Some of them found what they were looking for. Altogether too many of them did not. Instead, they became lost in the crowds, forced to live in slums or ghettos, pushed aside by better trained people.

As more of these people moved into the cities, the countryside began to feel their absence, and the cities became more and more overcrowded. This situation could have been avoided if the countryside had been developed so the people would not have had to leave to enjoy life. Industry, business, housing, schools, all facets of development would have been necessary

to keep the people “down on the farm”—to help the countryside and relieve the pressures on the cities.

Caddo County is carrying out such development. The people realized they had problems, decided to do something about them, and went into action. USDA and other agencies in the county are working with each other and with the people to solve problems and make improvements.

President Johnson has directed the Secretary of Agriculture to work with other Federal departments to help them make their programs and services as readily available to people in towns and counties as they are to people in cities.

The Secretary is using USDA’s Technical Action Panels in every nonmetropolitan county, in every multicounty district, and in every State to help people



obtain whatever Federal and State services they need—to help them build communities of tomorrow.

Technical Action Panels (TAP’s) are composed of USDA personnel stationed in field offices across the Nation, plus local officials of other Federal, State, and local agencies that offer programs useful to nonmetropolitan people, businesses, and governments. These panels work with local and State governments, development organizations, and community leaders to help them identify the assistance they need for economic, social, and cultural growth.

By working together, the people and the Technical Action Panel in Caddo County have directly or indirectly attracted industries and businesses, improved housing, built new homes,

improved cropland and pasture land, developed water and sewer systems, among other things.

TAP activities—although a part of their jobs—could be considered taking an extra step—a step which helps people realize that what they want to do can be done, and a step which helps them do it.

TAP members in Caddo County sometimes work long hours at their agency jobs—then put in more hours helping the people meet development needs. As one panel member put it, “there’s work for everybody, and some left over.”

But they do not complain about their long hours. In fact, they seem to be enjoying the opportunity to help others—and they are obviously proud when they point to things which have resulted from the local team effort.

Not all of Caddo County’s problems are solved. There are still families with incomes less than \$3,500 a year. There are still towns without water or sewer systems. There are still people literally without homes, or with substandard homes. There are still people without jobs.

But progress is being made. The people of Caddo County are not planning merely for the “now.” They are planning for the future. They are working hard so that in the future every community in the county will have its own water and sewer systems, its own schools, its own industry and businesses, its own recreation facilities—everything that can make a community a better place in which to live, work, and play.

The goal, as Secretary Freeman recently said in announcing a new Department publication, “Communities of Tomorrow—Agriculture/2000,” is “rural/urban balance—not only population balance but balance of opportunity, income, education, and culture” between big cities and nonmetropolitan areas.

Future articles will tell what USDA personnel, other Federal representatives, and the people in Caddo County, Okla., are doing to reach this goal—will tell it in their own words.

Food Price Hikes Don't Result From Farm Level Price Rises

Increased retail food prices have not resulted from increased farm prices, Assistant Secretary *George L. Mehren* said recently.

Dr. Mehren, addressing the 2d New York Consumer Assembly, pointed out that USDA analyses indicate clearly that farm prices have lagged behind retail food prices the past two decades. Retail food prices have increased, but farm prices have remained steady or even declined. "In 1967, farm value of the food market basket was less than 20 years ago and it was a better basket," he said.

Profits are often blamed for increased food prices, Dr. Mehren said, but "higher food prices have been caused more by increased costs than by higher profits. Profits now account for about 3.6 cents of every sales dollar, about the same as a decade ago."

Retail food prices have increased from 1 to 1.5 percent annually; prices of almost all other goods and services have increased at a higher rate, Dr. Mehren explained, but wages and incomes have risen faster than food prices.

"Per capita take-home pay has increased almost 4 percent per year since 1956. So, consumers spend a smaller percentage of income on food than ever before—about 18 percent," he said.

During most of the past decade, retail food price increases have lagged well behind prices of other consumer goods and services. "The stability of food prices in 1967 helped substantially in holding down the overall cost of living," he said.

Dr. Mehren said that for many foods "the farmer receives so small a part that if he gave his products away, retail price would decline very little." As an example, he said the retail price of a 1-pound loaf of white bread averaged about 22 cents in the third quarter of 1967. The farmer received about 3 cents for the wheat. With free wheat, the bread would still have cost 19 cents.

There are many other such foods. Among them are various bakery products, canned and frozen fruits and vegetables, ice cream, and others. Farmers receive a larger share of the retail price for foods like eggs, fresh beef, chicken, butter, and cheese, he said.

Dr. Mehren pointed out that these differences "reflect both the farm inputs and the inputs for processing and distribution."

Retail food prices in 1968 are expected to rise by around 2 or 3 percent, he said—more than the average annual increase that has occurred in recent years, "and farm level prices—which are not ex-

Edwards: Land-Use Planning Essential for Development

Comprehensive land-use planning is essential if we are to create "communities of tomorrow" where the economic and cultural opportunities of urban life are blended with the space and beauty of the countryside, Deputy Assistant Secretary *Alfred L. Edwards* said recently.

Pointing out that 70 percent of the population is crowded onto less than 2 percent of the land, Dr. Edwards said citizens are becoming concerned about the quality as well as the quantity of their environment.

Dr. Edwards said this deep concern is "triggering a rebirth—a resurgence"—in the role of local government—in county commissions, in planning boards, health commissions, park and recreation groups, zoning boards, and the like.

He added: "We use land extravagantly and wastefully. We have mutilated most of the open space around our cities. The green fields and stately trees, the solitude and spaciousness that lured man to the suburbs in the first place are often foreclosed to him shortly after he arrives. Recreation facilities are vastly overcrowded or nonexistent. Commuting becomes a brutal ordeal."

He said these signs can be seen throughout America. "And herein lies the challenge," he said. "As we continue to enlarge the man-made portion of our environment, we must do it wisely and with forethought, and we must do it now."

By the year 2000, he predicted, "we could step up to a higher plane of civilization where city slums and rural poverty are both things of the past; where a bountiful countryside supports not only a growing agriculture, but also a new industry and towns; where lakes, rivers, and streams run clean to quench the thirst and fill the needs of a growing population; where outdoor recreation is within the grasp of all; and where the beauty of the land kindles the spirit of a dynamic people."

pected to rise significantly—will not be a primary cause, just as they have not been a primary cause in the past."

Dr. Mehren said, "we know now that in the long run changes in food prices will be closely related to general economic factors—particularly wages and

SICK LEAVE HELD NO BAR IN HIRING OF SUCCESSOR

An employee becoming disabled applies for disability retirement and his application is approved. He goes on sick leave which will continue to the date of his retirement.

May his job be filled while he is exhausting his sick leave?

It can.

The Civil Service Commission has informed Federal agencies that an employee whose application for disability retirement has been approved is by definition incapable of performing his work.

He is therefore entitled to use whatever sick leave he has accumulated.

"The current practice is for an employee who has received approval to retire for disability to use his total sick leave accumulation before he is separated from the rolls and placed in retirement status," according to a commission directive.

Some agency officials have expressed a concern that this practice has hampered agency efforts to discharge missions effectively and economically, apparently in the belief that while the employee is exhausting his sick leave the agency is not permitted to hire a replacement until he has been officially separated.

A Comptroller General's decision of 1961 pertains equally to sick and annual leave, the commission said. According to the decision:

"... Payment for the terminal annual leave to an outgoing officer over a period after he has ceased to perform the duties of his office—which payment now is a right—may be regarded as a part of the salary of the office earned while he performed the duties thereof and need not be regarded as precluding payment of the salary of the position to his successor during the period of such terminal leave if funds are available therefor."

FSEE Open Continuously

The new Federal Service Entrance Examination has been opened on a continuous basis, rather than with an annual closing date as in the past.

Eligibility on the examination will be limited to a full 12-month period.

The general test and management intern test will be held periodically on the third Saturday of most months.

prices of inputs. Such changes will be less related to fluctuation in farm prices as time passes."

Secretary Expresses Concern, Orders Corporate Farm Study

Secretary Freeman has expressed "deep concern" over increased movement by large, diversified nonfarm corporations into agriculture, and has ordered USDA to step up its economic studies of the subject.

"Earlier USDA special studies of vertical integration in the broiler industry have shown some of the extent of movement by nonfarm interests into agriculture. Continuing studies by the Economic Research Service of the dynamics of farm size show the dimensions of this problem," the Secretary said.

"We also know that off-farm corporations have been acquiring large tracts of cropland in the Midwest and elsewhere. However, we do not now have the precise information needed to determine the extent of large-scale corporate activity in farming. This is the reason for the special ERS study on corporate farming," he said.

Expressing his "deep concern" over increasing movement by nonfarm corporations into the agricultural field, the Secretary said such large, diversified corporations could afford to take heavy losses in their farm operations, writing them off in other business activities.

"In periods of overproduction," the Secretary said, "financial reserves built up from nonfarm activities could allow such corporations to farm on very narrow profit margins or at a loss, posing a serious and perhaps fatal threat to family operated farms.

"Obviously this is detrimental to farmers," he continued. "It is also not in the public interest, in my opinion. If a few large firms can gain control of the Nation's food production, operating their own supply-management programs, they could conceivably dictate food prices."

Freeman stressed that the Department does not oppose incorporation of farms per se. "On the contrary, incorporation has definite advantages for some family farms, particularly in reducing liabilities and in the transfer of the farm from father to son. The Department has provided information to farmers on incorporation of their family operations for many years."

Some recent findings on corporate agriculture that will be probed more deeply in the new study are these, the Secretary indicated:

"*Internal Revenue Service data show that the number of farm corporations increased from 6,600 in 1953 to 17,500 in 1964. Their agricultural business receipts rose from \$1.6 billion to \$4.3 billion over the same period.



Dr. May holds the first Siberian elm genetically suitable for crossing with the American species. Scientists expect the seedling to transmit the Siberian elm's resistance to Dutch elm disease when crossed with the American elm.

RETIRED SCIENTISTS HELP USDA FIGHT TREE DISEASE

Two retired Department scientists are helping the Agricultural Research Service wage war against a tree disease which has spread across the Nation, leaving unsightly stumps in its path—and which seems to have doomed most American elms.

The scientists are *Dr. Haig Dermen*, 71, geneticist, and *Dr. Curtis May*, 70, plant pathologist. The killer they are helping fight is Dutch elm disease.

And the two volunteers may have found a way to mate the American elm with the Siberian elm, which is highly resistant to Dutch elm disease. Scientists have attempted to mate the two trees, hoping to produce an offspring which is both disease-resistant and beautiful. But so far they have been unsuccessful, apparently because the Siberian elm cells have only half the number of heredity-bearing chromosomes as do the cells of the American elm.

So, in an effort to make the elms compatible, Doctors Dermen and May decided to experiment with colchicine, an

anti-gout drug which has a peculiar effect on plant cell division.

Dutch elm disease is a fungus carried by the elm-bark beetle. Contaminated beetles tunnel to the tree's water-conducting vessels. Once there, the fungus grows until it chokes these lifegiving arteries, actually strangling the elm to death. The beetle also lays its eggs in the inner bark, so several generations may contribute to the tree's destruction.

In normal cell division, the chromosomes split, forming two complete sets that migrate to opposite sides of the cell. The cell divides down the middle, forming two cells, each with a complete set of chromosomes. However, when treated with colchicine the cell creates the additional chromosomes but fails to divide, resulting in a cell with double the normal number of chromosomes.

The two volunteers, who are working at the Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md., placed colchicine on each new bud of Siberian elm seedlings, pruned off leaves and twigs that had normal chromosome counts, and rooted double-chromosome shoots. They shipped 12 of these plants to the Department's research station in Delaware, Ohio, where they will be raised until they flower, and then mated with the American elms.

This will take at least 5 years, and will be followed by years of testing.

Dr. May feels there is a very high probability of success, "but you don't cheer until you see the baby."

Secretary Freeman has signed a working agreement with the newly formed Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District in Indiana to carry out a program of technical assistance to farmers and landowners in soil and water resource work.

And he has signed a working agreement with the Howell County Soil and Water Conservation District in Missouri providing a basis for USDA cooperation and assistance to farmers and landowners in their soil and water resource work.

Spotlight on People

Donald A. Williams, administrator of the Soil Conservation Service, has won one of the Nation's highest privately sustained honors for public service—a Rockefeller Public Service Award, which includes a \$10,000 cash grant. Williams was one of five career Federal employees honored in 1967. His award was for administration.

For James E. (Bud) Smith, retired plant scientist, the new Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center at Knoxville, Tenn., named in his honor. This is in recognition of his many contributions to the development of plants for soil and water conservation. He introduced and named a variety of plants.

Fred W. Traeger, agricultural attaché to Lima, Peru, since 1963, has become agricultural attaché at Manila, succeeding Lee R. Paramore.

Roger Stewart Euler, Foreign Agricultural Service employee in Washington, D.C., since 1965, has become agricultural attaché to Moscow. He succeeds Brice K. Meeker, who has been reassigned as agricultural attaché to The Hague.

M. David Urmston of Hamilton, Ohio, has become a member of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee, replacing Robert Miles of Laura, who has resigned.

New Employment Opportunities Increase Tennessee Population

The trend of population loss by rural Tennessee counties has been dramatically reversed as new job opportunities have been created, according to a University of Tennessee study.

For example, Warren County, scene of major development efforts, much of it involving Farmers Home Administration and other USDA agencies, increased almost 3,000 in population during the period 1960-65. Its neighboring counties also showed increases, according to the study, as job opportunities increased in Warren.

Some 84 Tennessee counties showed a population increase in the 1960-65 period, contrasting sharply with losses by 59 rural counties in the decade between the 1950 and 1960 Federal censuses.



Aphid Lions May Help Control Insects Which Infest Cotton

Larvae may help cotton farmers control the bollworm and other pests when and if they develop too much resistance to available insecticides.

The larvae, of the green lacewing, *Chrysopa carnea*, are called aphid lions, because they were first found preying on various aphid species. Entomologist Richard L. Ridgway of the Agricultural Research Service says he has achieved good control of bollworm-infested plots with the aphid lions.

One problem is that the aphid lion likes aphids, and may stop eating bollworms to attack cotton aphids. Despite this, Ridgway obtained promising results. The reason for this, he believes may be found in the results of one experiment which indicates that the searching behavior of the aphid lions leads them most often to favorite feeding and hiding places of the bollworms.

In related experiments, at College Station, Tex., in cooperation with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Ridgway killed 99.5 percent of the bollworms in an experimental plot by releasing aphid lions at a rate of 25,000 per acre—a level of control equal to the best obtainable with conventional insecticides.

In another series of tests, he reduced boll injury in cotton to only 3 percent by releasing the predators at a rate of 92,000 per acre in late June and 200,000 more, per acre, 6 days later.

Freeman Stresses Importance Of Consolidation Program

Secretary Freeman recently asked agency heads to point out to all personnel the importance of USDA's consolidation program "to the Department and in the Government-wide program of improving service to the public."

He also has urged State Administrative Committees "to take a fresh, hard look at all locations where consolidation has not been achieved."

The program involves housing together in consolidated offices field activities which serve the same geographical areas, such as county, State, or region.

Consolidation, Secretary Freeman said, is a challenging and difficult assignment. A little more than half of USDA's county offices are consolidated. "A total of 31 of the 50 States and Puerto Rico have consolidated offices," he said. These offices are in 1,600 counties, more than half of the counties in the Nation. "But," the Secretary said, "we cannot rest. I am sure there are many counties where a little more effort, a little give by one agency or another, or just taking another look at the problem, will result in consolidation and provide lasting benefits."

The Secretary pointed out that Secretary's Memorandum No. 1492 revitalized the consolidation program of the Department in 1962. "Consolidated offices," the Secretary said, "provide one point where the public can get information and service. It thus helps our program of improving communications with the public. Consolidation also aids in program coordination and provides opportunities for joint common services."

Meat Inspection Work Group Established by Department

The Department has established a temporary work group to implement the Federal-State cooperation provisions of the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967.

The group is composed of officials of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

This group will serve on an interim basis until permanent advisory and planning committees are appointed.

The group will function as a communications channel between the State agencies and officials who administer the consumer protection programs of USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service.

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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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FEB. 1, 1968

COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW . . . PART TWO—COOPERATION

"The only thing that can bring people out of a crazy hodgepodge is an organization like TAP," says *Billie Bryan* of Binger, Okla.

Bryan is manager of Caddo Electric, a cooperative financed by the Rural Electrification Administration. He was referring to Technical Action Panels. These panels are composed of USDA personnel stationed in field offices across the Nation, plus local officials of other Federal, State, and local agencies that offer programs useful to nonmetropolitan people, businesses, and governments. The panels work with local and State governments, development organizations, and community leaders to help them identify the assistance they need for economic, social, and cultural growth.

Bryan has been a prime mover of a great deal of development activity in Caddo County. His cooperative secured one of four loans which—along with local funds—helped make Sequoyah Carpet Mills, the largest industry in the county, a reality. The cooperative is a sponsor of a self-help housing program, furnishing office space and some secretarial help, as part of the 10 percent local contribution required for Office of Economic Opportunity participation in the program, which is administered by OEO and the Farmers Home Administration. Bryan also is vice-president of a non-profit corporation planning a \$3 million recreation complex at nearby Fort Cobb Lake. A marketing cooperative was started by Caddo Electric, which also provides the administrative services for the Neighborhood Youth Corps program and has been the catalyst for many other programs. Meetings of the Technical Action Panel are frequently held at the Caddo Electric building in Binger.

But Bryan calls the USDA personnel in Caddo County "the backbone of all the programs we have" because "they know the farmers' problems."

He referred to the Technical Action Panel as "the most potential organization that's been set up." No progress is made, he said, if people are "going off in

all directions." Coordination is a necessity.

What have USDA and other Federal agencies been doing in Caddo County? *W. A. Hamilton*, Farmers Home Administration county supervisor, is in a position to know. He is chairman of the Technical Action Panel. He has been in Caddo County 29 years, 27 of them as county supervisor. Hamilton says in Caddo County all the agencies "have worked together real well—I can't remember any friction."

The Technical Action Panel, he points out, was put into action "to see what the problems were and how they might be solved" and to "help farm and nonfarm people with something to give them a little boost in income."

TAP work, he said, developed into an attack on poverty, help for the low-income people, help with community facilities, and getting information on Federal programs to the people.

"People are going to school and college, 4-H Club members are winning awards, and there has been a tremendous improvement in the quality of cattle," he said, but it wasn't always like that.

For example, in 1954 and 1956 drought put many farmers and ranchers in financial distress, but they began to work out of their troubles in 1957 and improvement has continued since then. Now, Hamilton said, "this county has no real serious pockets of poverty like in some other sections of the State." He said there are still low-income people who need help, but low-income people in Caddo County can and do get help.

For example, a widow with five children got a housing loan from Farmers Home Administration. After they moved into their new home, the school superintendent noticed a marked improvement in the children's school work and in their attitudes toward school and their fellow students. The superintendent gave credit to a new pride in having a better house to live in.

A. P. Ottinger, work unit conservation-

ist for the Soil Conservation Service, pointed out that locally-based agency personnel "let each other know about various people who need or want help, and let the people know that, for example, the Farmers Home Administration or Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service can help them. We are all working together to get the job done."

The agencies, he said, also are "working together in developing one another's programs. This is what helps unite people together on a team."

Orvis McMahan, county office manager for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, added that his agency helps "get the word (on useful programs) to the people through ASC committee members, who know and are told of the various programs."

A person's ethnic background has no bearing on whether he gets help in Caddo County. For example, about 35 percent of the land in the county is Indian land. Tribes represented include Kiowa, Wichita, Delaware, Navajo, Caddo, and others. There are enough Indians in the area to require a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) area office which employs about 250 people and covers all or part of seven counties—Caddo, Grady, Comanche, Kiowa, Cotton, Tillman, and Washita.

Bud Ward, credit specialist for the bureau, says his agency helps Indians get a variety of assistance in employment, welfare, credit, land operations, education, health (through the Public Health Service), and other services.

Indian children go to public schools and a boarding school (an Indian school, mostly Navajo).

The bureau helps Indians get credit and financing from others—local, State, or Federal, and has a program of direct loans, helpful for borrowers who can't get financing from other sources.

And, Ward said, the Indians are now permitted to sell their land "in certain justifiable cases."

Ottinger says BIA technicians "have

(continued on page 2)

Communities of Tomorrow

(from page 1)

been real energetic" on conservation projects.

Don Jarvis, Office of Economic Opportunity, said he has referred Indians to the bureau's conservation branch and "they received quite a bit of help."

Cooperation is a key word in Caddo County, in improving land, in attracting industry, in all the county's progress. Harold Liles, county Extension agent, says this "cooperation isn't going to cease in the county."

Caddo County has only one town with more than 5,500 population. That's Anadarko, with about 7,500 people. But despite the town's population, Liles said, "the county's so big we all (and he meant 'all' literally) have to cooperate to get anything done."

Executive Manpower Board Established for Department

Secretary Freeman has established an Executive Manpower Board to assure involvement of top management in the new Government-wide executive assignment system for most positions in grades GS-16, 17, and 18.

The board is to review manpower plans, direct the search for and evaluate candidates on a merit basis for executive assignments, recommend selection of GS-16, 17, and 18 executives to the Secretary, assess the need for and recommend to the Secretary distribution of executive assignment "spaces," and advise on career development needs for executives.

Guidelines are contained in Chapter 305 of the Federal and Department personnel manuals. The Office of Personnel will provide administrative support.

Members of the board are: Under Secretary, chairman; Assistant Secretary for Administration; Assistant Secretary for International Affairs; Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Consumer Services; Assistant Secretary for Rural Development and Conservation; Director, Agricultural Economics; agency administrators (as appropriate); heads of staff offices (as appropriate); and Director of Personnel, executive secretary.

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for March are to antebellum homes and gardens in Louisiana and Mississippi.

For information about club tours, or membership applications: Mrs. Betty Brooks, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, phone DU 8-5611.

P&SA Administrator Calls 1967 'One of the Most Significant'

Donald A. Campbell, acting administrator of the Packers and Stockyards Administration, described 1967 as one of the most significant years in terms of services to the Nation's food producers, processors, distributors, and consumers since the Packers and Stockyards Act was passed in 1921.

"These services extend all the way from the food producer to the processor—to the distributors, wholesalers, and retailers—and eventually right down to the consuming public," Campbell said.

Campbell cited among the year's highlights: Publishing a study of the integrated broiler industry—making an analysis of the effect of packer feeding on cattle prices at a major terminal market—and investigating "grade and yield" livestock buying practices.

"Studies are being made to determine what effect various practices have upon

prices that the food producer receives in the marketplace," said Campbell.

The foundation concept of the P&SA is maintenance of a free, open, and competitive marketing situation within the livestock and poultry industries.

Representative types of practices investigated include unfair sales promotion; assigning packer employees to central chainstore meat buying offices; bait-and-switch advertising; price discrimination; commercial bribery; and false and misleading advertising.

In 1967, P&SA handled 6,200 complaints, and returned \$2.53 million in payments to 599 of the complainants. Over 10,400 investigations were conducted.

Campbell said P&SA is hoping to get even more momentum into its working relations with the individual States, and with representatives of the livestock and poultry industries.

1968 Marketing and Production

Decisions by Farmers Important

In a yearend statement, Secretary Freeman reviewed 1967 and took a look at 1968.

He said 1967's low prices, occasioned by record harvests throughout the world, should turn up early this year, but that much would depend on marketing and production decisions taken by farmers.

The Secretary termed 1967 as "a disappointing one for U.S. farmers, a year of overproduction both at home and around the world, with resultant low prices.

"In the U.S.," he said, "the crop production index was 10 points above the 1960-65 average. Wheat production set an all-time record. Poultry, turkey, and egg production were all up more than 6 percent above 1966 levels.

"Most of the major grain exporting nations, plus Europe, had 'super-harvests' in 1966 or 1967, sending world prices plummeting. Tough competition in world markets was felt in the U.S.

"In this country, only the previous elimination of surpluses and the existence of farm commodity programs limited the drop in prices. Without these two factors, U.S. prices would have been much lower than they actually were." Despite the turn-down from the record 1966 level, 1967 net income per farm was more than 50 percent higher than in 1960.

Describing his outlook for 1968 as "cautiously optimistic," the Secretary said government action—coupled with prudent planting and marketing deci-

sions by farmers—could result in a price upturn and a return to the year-by-year progress toward parity of income that has been the rule since 1961.

"One government action aims at a 10 percent reduction in grain acreage under provisions of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1965. It is designed to reduce over-supplies of grain . . . and to raise prices," he said.

"More than a score of other actions have been taken to strengthen the power of farmers to hold grain and other commodities for a better price. As of November, farmers had placed 65 percent more grain under loan than at the same date in 1966.

"And intensive government and private export promotion has resulted in the second successive \$5 billion year for dollar agricultural exports in 1967, a mark 52 percent higher than in 1960.

"Prices in the next few months depend on what farmers themselves do. Production decisions in poultry, hogs, and livestock in the next few months are crucial to 1968 profits. Decision to market grain at low prices, or to hold for better prices, will determine grain prices in the first half of 1968.

"If farmers cut back livestock production modestly, prices should rally in early 1968. But if farmers yield to the temptation of feeding cheap, wet corn in great amounts, the income of broiler, turkey, hog, and cattle producers will suffer."



Employees Inspired by Secretary Give Time to Help Youngsters

"Every one of us can and should do something to help a disadvantaged young person this summer," Secretary Freeman's memorandum read.

The memorandum was a challenge to all employees, and it referred to last summer.

At least one group of employees took the Secretary up on his challenge. A volunteer group at the Agricultural Research Service's northern utilization research division, Peoria, Ill., not only caught the spirit of the Secretary's message, but are keeping it alive. They helped many young people during the summer and are continuing and expanding projects into the winter.

The group was formed under the leadership of *Dr. Lynferd J. Wickerham*, research microbiologist, and it ranged from a GS-4 student trainee to a GS-15 research chemist. It has served as a liaison between the ARS division and Peoria area social, recreational, community, and religious groups which recommend youngsters who needed various kinds of help.

Dr. Robert J. Dimler, division director, gave the program a boost by sending a memo to all his employees telling them what *Dr. Wickerham's* group was trying to do and asking persons who wished to help to contact the group. And several did.

During the summer, employees, singly and in groups, took underprivileged children to farms and beaches, and arranged for several tours of laboratories so they could see science in action.



MRS. McCLELLAN, CENTER, AND 4-H MEMBER BARBARA JEAN SHAW ENTERTAIN 4-YEAR-OLD GUEST AT BUSY BONNETS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY.

But the program did not stop when summer did. It continued into the fall and winter, with some projects still being organized. The projects under way or being planned include supplying transportation for young people to science lectures, tutoring youngsters who need extra help on certain school subjects, supervising games, participating in cultural development activities of churches and organizations, and organizing 4-H Clubs and serving as volunteer leaders—such as the Busy Bonnets 4-H Club, formed by *Florence McClellan* with the help of the Extension Service and the Friendship House of Christian Service.

Yes, the Secretary's memorandum was a challenge, and it referred to last summer—but it could just as well refer to this coming summer, and fall, and winter.

Rural-Urban Migration Slowing, Secretary Freeman Reports

In a yearend status report on "Town and Country, USA," covering rural development activities of the Department, Secretary Freeman said a substantial slow-down in the migration pattern from country to large urban areas has occurred.

"Since 1961," he said, "the Department of Agriculture has greatly increased its efforts in the rural development field; realizing that its programs must help the 4 out of 5 rural Americans who do not live on farms, as well as farmers.

"It appears that these efforts are bearing fruit," he said, pointing to:

POPULATION: A recently released census study shows that on a percentage basis, the growth of metropolitan areas (defined as cities of over 50,000, plus their surrounding territories) is slowing, while the percentage growth of non-metropolitan areas (rural and small-town) is increasing.

What this means, the Secretary said, "is that while metropolitan areas are still growing faster than nonmetro areas, the gap is narrowing."

JOBS: "New jobs in cities of under 25,000—where most rural jobholders work—have been increasing at a faster rate than in large metropolitan areas over the past few years."

ONE STATE'S EXPERIENCE: In Tennessee, a State roughly half-rural in 1960, net out-migration has been definitely reversed, a recently released report from the University of Tennessee's Bureau of Business Research shows. Its findings: In the decade of the fifties, 59 rural Tennessee counties—out of a total of 95 counties in the State—showed a net population loss. From 1960 through 1965, however, 84 Tennessee counties, most of them rural, had a population gain.

USDA Signs First Agreement With Veterinarian Association

The Department has signed an employee-management cooperation agreement with the National Association of Federal Veterinarians covering veterinary meat inspectors of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

C&MS said the agreement, the first of its kind with veterinary meat inspectors, will:

- Insure employee participation in the formulation of personnel policies and procedures.
- Provide for more efficiency and responsibility in accomplishing objectives of the Federal meat inspection program.
- Promote systematic employee-management cooperation.
- Facilitate the adjustment of grievances and disputes.

About 700 nonsupervisory veterinarians employed by C&MS as veterinary meat inspectors are affected by the agreement. C&MS is the largest employer of veterinarians in the United States.

Record 3.5 Million People Helped By FHA Credit Services in 1967

Secretary Freeman said recently that a record 3.5 million rural people benefited from supervised credit services of the Farmers Home Administration during 1967.

The Secretary said the agency advanced \$1.5 billion in loans and grants under programs which include credit for family ownership and operation of farms, better rural housing, and modernized rural community facilities.

He also reported that:

—Some 1.5 million rural people used Farmers Home Administration credit during the year for rural housing, economic opportunity enterprises, farm ownership, and farm operating expenses.

—About 2 million rural people benefited during the year from completed group community development projects, such as water and sewer systems and recreation facilities, financed by the Farmers Home Administration.

—The \$1.5 billion advanced by the agency in 1967 included \$540 million for farm operating and ownership, \$530 million for rural housing, and \$250 million for rural community facilities.

—The agency exceeded the previous record year of 1966, when 3 million rural Americans benefited from programs totaling \$1.2 billion.

Spotlight on People

David L. Hume has been appointed agricultural attaché to London, replacing Robert N. Anderson, who is retiring from the Foreign Agricultural Service after 10 years at the London post.

Lawrence E. Brennan of Dodge City has been appointed chairman of the Kansas Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee, succeeding Gilbert Egbert of Ingalls.

Anthony N. Cruik has been appointed agricultural attaché to the U.S. Mission to the European Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Charles C. Brodersen of Herman has been designated chairman of the Nebraska Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee, and Robert K. Pearson of Plymouth has been appointed a member.

Curtis W. Sabrosky, Agricultural Research Service research entomologist at the Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., has become president-elect of the Entomological Society of America for 1968. He will serve as president of the society in 1969.

Angus Nott of Live Oak has been appointed to the Florida Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee. The vacancy was caused by the recent resignation of Emery T. Williams, Alachua, who was chairman. Stuart C. Simpson, Monticello, was named chairman.

REA Borrowers Serve 20 Million

The Rural Electrification Administration's more than 1,000 electric borrowers, mostly cooperatives, are serving 5.8 million meters, or about 20 million rural people, Secretary Freeman said recently.

In a yearend report, the Secretary also noted that REA's 868 telephone borrowers are providing modern, all-dial service to another 4 to 5 million rural people.

He said rural electric systems added 150,000 meters to their lines during 1967. REA-financed telephone systems extended new or improved service to 100,000 subscriber outlets,



USDA Plans for Recreation Area Ready to Proceed, Freeman Says

Secretary Freeman has announced that the Department's plan to develop Mineral King recreation complex in California is ready to proceed.

He said the Department of the Interior is preparing necessary right-of-way agreements so the California Division of Highways can start providing an improved two-lane route to the site, which is part of the Sequoia National Forest in California's High Sierras.

Walt Disney Productions of Los Angeles has been awarded a preliminary permit by the Forest Service to develop it into a year-round recreation area.

The California Division of Highways plans to make the road a model which combines the best practices to meet the needs of the public and protect the natural environment of this unique alpine area. Advance planning for the road has also included consideration of sequoia trees and wildlife, Secretary Freeman said.

Secretary Freeman has designated another 388 areas in 36 States to receive the Food Stamp Program this fiscal year. The action will enable some 600,000 more low-income people to benefit from this USDA food assistance program, which is currently helping more than 2 million Americans attain better diets.

A new study by USDA economists shows that 46 percent of all poverty-level families live in rural areas. Thus, while rural

Lenders to Study Credit Requests More Carefully in 1968—Tootell

Farmers applying for credit this year can expect lenders to study more carefully the purposes for which credit is to be used, according to Robert B. Tootell, governor of the Farm Credit Administration.

With farmers' income margins under continuing pressure, and the prospect that credit is likely to remain tight, lenders also will be giving more attention to borrowers' real needs and to their repayment capacity.

Efficient farmers with adequate-sized operations will continue to need large amounts of credit, Tootell predicts, but most will be able to meet their repayment schedules. Some of the less efficient and marginal borrowers, however, have reached their capacity to use additional credit profitably. All will need to plan more carefully in handling their financial affairs, he said.

Farmers Are Urged to Participate In Wheat, Feed Grain Programs

Secretary Freeman has urged farmers to participate in the wheat and feed grain programs and divert more acres from wheat, corn, and grain sorghum production than in 1967.

Program participation, he said, is the key to improving the supply and price situation for 1968 grain crops and safeguarding livestock producers against overexpansion.

Grain programs for 1968 are aimed at turning the supply situation around as a means of strengthening farm prices. The 1968 feed grain program is geared to an acreage that would produce about 2 to 3 percent less grain than will be in demand—in contrast to the 2 to 3 percent oversupply that has been bearing down prices for the 1967 crops. Wheat acreage for 1968 is being trimmed to keep production in line with needs and bolster prices.

residents constitute less than one-third of the U.S. population of 200 million, they account for almost half of the poverty.

Domestic food donations by the Department to improve diets of school children, needy families, and needy persons in charitable institutions totaled more than 404 million pounds in the first 3 months (July-Sept. 1967) of this fiscal year, nearly a 35 percent gain over the same months in fiscal 1967.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

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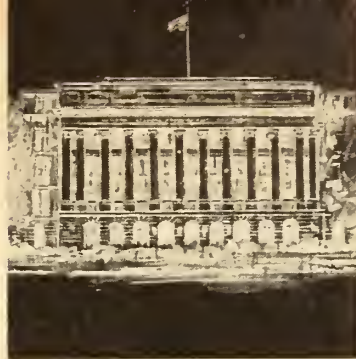
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW . . . PART THREE—JOBS

Industry moving into Caddo County, Okla., "has helped keep people from going into the big city for jobs," says *Harold Liles*, county Extension agent.

For 25 years, Liles said, the county lost an average of 108 farmers a year. But this loss began to level off in 1960, and came to a halt by 1965. Within the past 2 years, the county has gained about 3,000 people.

Liles pointed to Sequoyah Carpet Mills as an example of an industry which has helped stem the flow of people from the countryside to the city. The mill is the largest industry in the county, and reputed to be the only rug mill west of the Mississippi River. It opened about 4 years ago, and now employs almost 1,000 people, 700 of whom are from Caddo County. And administrative-level personnel, Liles said, entered Caddo County from other areas.

Most of the employees at the mill were unskilled, at least at rug making, and many are minority group members. Employment at the mill, according to *Tom Montgomery*, personnel director, has helped several of these people become home, two-car, and appliance owners.

Montgomery says expansion at the mill has almost "created a situation where anybody who wants a job can have one."

Leon Carver, vice-president for industrial relations, credits the plant and other industries with increasing bank deposits about 38 percent in the past 3 years. Sales tax receipts in the county, he said, are steady, and in Anadarko, the county seat, they have increased.

Carver said there "has been quite a lot of change . . . because of the industrial development, and I guess there's more to come."

He feels that "a guy can't make a living off of 80 acres like he could 30 years ago," but if that person has a daily 8-hour job to supplement his farm income, this is good.

Sequoyah Mills is building only in rural areas, Carver said, explaining that

officials are "shooting for nucleus communities" which are able to supply such necessities as electricity and water to surrounding facilities.

Expansion is to continue. Since 1966, Sequoyah Carpet Mills has opened another plant near the first one, is expanding the first one, and has "gone into the furniture manufacturing business," Carver said. This means more jobs. The plant will need about 200 more employees, he said, and the furniture plant at nearby Elk City will employ 800 eventually. Another carpet mill and a furniture plant are planned, to employ about 400 to 450 each, he added.



The mill has a \$4 million a year payroll in Anadarko's two plants alone. Most of the 700 employees who are from Caddo County live within a 15-mile radius of the plants.

W. A. Hamilton, Farmers Home Administration county supervisor, points out that although Sequoyah is the largest industry in the county, there are others, such as a company in the community of Eakly which builds homes in a factory and delivers them to the purchasers' land. The company, Royal Homes, employs about 17 people. It expects to employ 30 to 40 eventually.

Hamilton, agreeing with Liles, says the new jobs created by industrial development have "tended to arrest the population loss."

Some of the industries, Hamilton said, have "come in because of a 'climate' set up here by all of us," referring to local leaders and to members of the county Technical Action Panel, which Hamilton chairs.

Technical Action Panels are composed of USDA personnel stationed in field offices across the Nation, plus local officials of other Federal, State, and local agencies that offer programs useful to nonmetropolitan people, businesses, and governments. These panels work with local and State governments, development organizations, and community leaders to help them identify and obtain the assistance they need for economic, social, and cultural growth.

The "climate" in Caddo County is one of people working together toward the same objective—progress.

Besides this "climate," what is there in Caddo County that draws industry? Hamilton gives credit to local leaders, to citizens' groups such as Anadarko Industrial Development Authority and the Caddo County Industrial Development Authority, to the Technical Action Panel members, and to other State and Federal agency personnel.

For example, he said, the Economic Development Administration, the Rural Electrification Administration (through the Caddo Electric Cooperative) a State industrial-loan agency, and the Anadarko Industrial Development Authority all "pitched in money" to help finance the carpet mill.

And the factory-assembled-house plant went into operation in the county because there were employable people and—since industries are moving in and expanding—there is a continuing demand for housing.

Bud Ward, credit specialist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, says that

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Communities of Tomorrow

(from page 1)

"many young (Indian) families go where they can obtain employment," but because of the new industries, "many of the young stay and work locally."

The Bureau of Indian Affairs helped finance the training of Indians by Sequoyah Carpet Mills for jobs in the plant.

There are many other job opportunities in Caddo County. For example, according to *Don Jarvis*, Office of Economic Opportunity, 17 young people were employed under the Neighborhood Youth Corps program to help build a school in the community of Cement. They have moved into the school. *Billie Bryan*, manager of Caddo Electric, a cooperative financed by the Rural Electrification Administration, pointed out that his co-op was the prime sponsor of the Neighborhood Youth Corps in the county. School superintendents were made sub-sponsors, and teachers were involved. He said REA helped write the program. Also, Jarvis said, 43 work-study youths from two colleges were put to work during the summer at various jobs, some as secretaries, some as helpers in conservation work and on other development projects.

Caddo Refrigerated Storage, Inc., stores shelled peanuts to be used for seed. The company has three permanent employees, including *Ray Phelps*, the manager. But, Phelps said, when a truck is to be loaded or unloaded, one of the three goes into Anadarko and recruits workers from the street corners. This provides only temporary work, but even this helps.

The cold storage plant, which is expanding, was one of the first rural areas development projects in the county. It was financed by a bond issue by the Anadarko Industrial Development Authority, and accepted its first load in October 1965. Phelps calls the plant a first step toward allied industry. He says it does not affect the farmers too much at this time, but in the future "could become an absolute necessity."

Louis Allen of Allen's Western Wear, Anadarko, says the impact of development on the area "is a hard thing to measure, but it has been good. You can't throw . . . more people into a town without its having some kind of effect."

NEW PAMPHLET PUBLISHED

The Department's Office of Information in Washington, D.C., has published a new pamphlet, "Your United States Department of Agriculture, How it serves people on the Farm and in the Community, Nation, World," PA-824.

GENERAL SCHEDULE

Grade	Annual rates and steps									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
GS-1	\$3,776	\$3,902	\$4,028	\$4,154	\$4,280	\$4,406	\$4,532	\$4,658	\$4,784	\$4,910
GS-2	4,108	4,245	4,382	4,519	4,656	4,793	4,930	5,067	5,204	5,341
GS-3	4,466	4,615	4,764	4,913	5,062	5,211	5,360	5,509	5,658	5,807
GS-4	4,995	5,161	5,327	5,493	5,659	5,825	5,991	6,157	6,323	6,489
GS-5	5,565	5,751	5,937	6,123	6,309	6,495	6,681	6,867	7,053	7,239
GS-6	6,137	6,342	6,547	6,752	6,957	7,162	7,367	7,572	7,777	7,982
GS-7	6,734	6,959	7,184	7,409	7,634	7,859	8,084	8,309	8,534	8,759
GS-8	7,384	7,630	7,876	8,122	8,368	8,614	8,860	9,106	9,352	9,598
GS-9	8,054	8,323	8,592	8,861	9,130	9,399	9,668	9,937	10,206	10,475
GS-10	8,821	9,115	9,409	9,703	9,997	10,291	10,585	10,879	11,173	11,467
GS-11	9,657	9,979	10,301	10,623	10,945	11,267	11,589	11,911	12,233	12,555
GS-12	11,461	11,843	12,225	12,607	12,989	13,371	13,753	14,135	14,517	14,899
GS-13	13,507	13,957	14,407	14,857	15,307	15,757	16,207	16,657	17,107	17,557
GS-14	15,841	16,369	16,897	17,425	17,953	18,481	19,009	19,537	20,065	20,593
GS-15	18,404	19,017	19,630	20,243	20,856	21,469	22,082	22,695	23,308	23,921
GS-16	20,982	21,681	22,380	23,079	23,778	24,477	25,176	25,875	26,574	27,273
GS-17	23,788	24,581	25,374	26,167	26,960	27,753	28,546	29,339	30,132	30,925
GS-18	27,055	27,955	28,855	29,755	30,655	31,555	32,455	33,355	34,255	35,155

Board Chooses Mrs. Johnson To Give Memorial Lecture

Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson has been chosen to give the first B. Y. Morrison Memorial Lecture this year, Secretary Freeman has announced.

The lectures, to be given every year, will honor Morrison as the first director of USDA's National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., and developer of the Glenn Dale azalea. The lectures will be given by persons chosen for their contributions to the science or practice of ornamental horticulture.

Time and place of Mrs. Johnson's lecture had not been announced at press time.

The First Lady's nomination to give the talk described her as "the single most powerful influence on ornamental horticulture that this country has ever known."

Morrison (1891-1966) was well known

as an administrator, landscape architect, plant explorer, horticulturist, and writer. Living testimony to his ability as a plant breeder is the 5-acre collection of 60,000 hybrid azaleas at the National Arboretum. The Glenn Dale azaleas are considered his greatest horticultural achievement, although he also was internationally known as an iris and narcissus expert.

The selection of Mrs. Johnson to give the first of the lectures was made by a board of governors composed of the Secretary of Agriculture, USDA's director of science and education, the administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, the president of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and the president of the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council.

Fish Co-op Members Improve Their Living Standard by Uniting

The Florida Fishermen's Association is an example of how people can improve their standard of living by uniting to do things they couldn't do individually.

Before the association was formed in October at Ruskin, Fla., most of its members were earning less than \$3,000 a year. At the rates of income already achieved, members expect to average about \$5,000 yearly.

The cooperative started with the help of a \$245,000 loan, repayable over a period of 30 years, from Farmers Home Administration. Now it pays cash for each catch from the formerly independent small-boat fisherman. Using its own facilities, the cooperative processes the fish and sells it or stores it for a better market.

The group recently sold 17,000 pounds

of fish to a Washington area grocery chain. At a banquet, the grocery chain served some of the fish to Secretary Freeman and members of the Florida congressional delegation.

This was the second large-scale sale of products in the Washington area by an FHA-financed cooperative. Grand Marie, a sweetpotato cooperative in St. Landry Parish, La., recently sold a truckload of potatoes to another grocery chain.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's March list. Featured are: *peanuts and peanut products*. Other plentiful include *eggs, milk and dairy products, pork, potatoes, and dry split peas*.

12 'Employees' Looking for Jobs

Twelve of the people working at the Department in Washington, D.C., are trying to get jobs.

That's not a contradiction. The 12 are undergoing on-the-job training in various USDA agencies. They were sent to USDA and are paid by the District of Columbia's Work and Training Opportunity Center, which is operated by the D.C. Department of Public Welfare.

For some time now, the Office of Personnel has been working with representatives of the Washington Training Opportunity Center to place some of its trainees in agencies of the Department for on-the-job training and possible subsequent employment.

Department officials supervise the work of the trainees, who are in various positions.

The center trains people to get and hold jobs. Trainees go to the center voluntarily. Admission involves: A quota system which takes into account age, family size, place of residence, and sex; degree of motivation, which is determined by a selection panel; and criteria of eligibility as stipulated in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

After a person has been accepted, he begins an 8-week course which focuses on reading, writing, and mathematics, as well as current affairs, music appreciation, and ethnic history.

Then he either moves on to more specialized training or is placed on a training site in an agency such as USDA.

Training time varies. How long it lasts is determined by a work experience counselor, the training site supervisor, the trainee, and Civil Service regulations.

When training is completed, the student goes to the center's Job Development and Placement Section, which helps him get a job. A specialist sets up appointments for interviews, contacts possible employers, and provides prospective employers with recommendations, attendance records, and other pertinent data. He also keeps in contact with the trainee for 6 months after the date of employment.

The trainees at the Department have had varying degrees of education. Some had specialized training before going to the center: some had passed Civil Service examinations—but couldn't get jobs. Some have large families to support.

As of January 1, the center had placed 898 trainees in jobs with 263 employers. The work involved 126 different job titles. And at that time, 77 percent of them were still working for their initial employers. Several others had moved on to better paying jobs

William T. Baribeau of Valley City, N. Dak., is making use of public access to cast for bass in a wildlife pond on the farm of Calvin Foss, a few miles from the city. The pond attracts waterfowl and other wildlife. Farms open to the public under the access feature of the Cropland Adjustment Act welcome all visitors without regard to race, creed, or national origin.



THOUSANDS FIND RECREATION ON FARMS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Thousands of Americans who had been looking without much success for good places to hunt, fish, trap, or hike are now finding them on about 12,000 farms in 33 States as a result of the public access feature of the Cropland Adjustment Program (CAP).

The land on which the new recreational opportunities are being found totals 1,069,709 acres mainly in the Midwest. It is part of the land that farmers have diverted under CAP from crops in plentiful supply to conservation.

States having the most farms open to the public for such recreation under CAP agreements are: Michigan, 2,162 farms; Wisconsin, 1,742; Pennsylvania, 1,388; North Dakota, 1,154; and Ohio, 1,031. Those having the largest acreage for this outdoor recreation are North Dakota, 219,616 acres; South Dakota,

148,670; Michigan, 126,910; Nebraska, 111,012; and Wisconsin, 103,813. Most areas of the country have States with public access farms, except New England and the Southwest.

These farms may be located by contacting any Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) county office. The program is administered locally through these offices. They are usually in the county seat and are listed in the telephone directory under U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Public access farms are marked with a green and white sign, announcing that hunting is permitted without charge. The sign is also the welcome mat to those looking for a place to fish, trap, or hike, but all visitors should call at the farm residence and speak with the farmer before going on the land.

One Million Farmers Take Part in Agricultural Conservation Program

More than a million farmers, including those with low incomes, took part in cost-share conservation under regular and special projects of the Agricultural Conservation Program during 1967, according to a recent estimate.

Secretary Freeman said an increased number of low-income farmers benefited from ACP special projects during the year. Such projects were approved in about 400 U.S. counties, compared with fewer than 300 counties in 1966. The projects help groups of farmers solve conservation problems on their land and are of value to the communities or areas where they live.

The million-plus farmers took part in regular and special cost-share conservation projects by carrying out almost 50 different cost-share measures, such as establishing vegetative cover and building terraces to halt erosion, reorganizing irrigation systems to save water, estab-

lishing sod waterways to reduce stream siltation, building ponds, protecting streambanks, and clearing channels to prevent flooding and assure clean and abundant water.

Much of the conservation work was done on farms in small watershed developments throughout the Nation to support the total conservation effort being made in the watersheds.

AIR FORCE GETTING SCS AID

The Soil Conservation Service is giving technical assistance to the Air Force for soil survey and conservation planning on the 100,000-acre Avon Park Bombing Range in Florida's Highland's Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Soil Conservation Service is helping Air Force officials develop a multiple land use program, coordinating woodland, range, wildlife, and recreation

Marketing Services Increase

One of the most noticeable and persistent trends in the food marketing system has been the tendency of marketing firms to provide increasing quantities of marketing services per unit of product, the Economic Research Service reports.

ERS noted that since 1940 the quantity of marketing services has increased by 100 percent while volume of food marketed increased 73 percent. The volume of services per unit of product increased about 16 percent.

Product innovations and technologies of processing and transportation are credited with being the foundation for much of the increase.

This tendency has resulted, in part, from changing consumer tastes and preferences, ERS said, pointing out that many of the tasks of food preparation have been shifted from the home to the marketing system.

One of the most noticeable examples of this trend, according to ERS, is found in the changing consumption patterns for potatoes. Per capita consumption of fresh potatoes, where the basic preparation is done by the housewife, has declined about 25 percent during the past decade. But during that same period, per capita consumption of potatoes which require a minimum of home preparation, such as frozen, canned, and dehydrated, has more than tripled.

Away-from-home eating involves the most elaborate form of services associated with food marketing. Based on retail trade reports published by the Department of Commerce, per capita sales, in constant dollars, by eating places increased 25 percent since 1957-59. By comparison, per capita food sales by retail food stores increased 4 percent.

Consumer expenditure data, however, indicate that while consumers increased their expenditures for food away-from-home, the gain was due to rising prices.

ERS said that on the basis of rising consumer incomes, more women employed away from home, more white collar workers, and increased vacationing and traveling among the population, it seems reasonable to conclude that the relative importance of this market has increased. One estimate indicated that over the next 10 years the size of this market will increase 75 percent, compared with a population increase of 15 percent. This represents an increase in per capita consumption of about 55 percent.



'Industries Have Responsibility To Halt Contamination': Advisors

The Farm Resources and Facilities Research Advisory Committee of the Department says agriculture industries have a major responsibility to help prevent contamination of soils, water, and air.

Committee members, meeting recently in Auburn, Ala., recommended high priority for studies of agricultural wastes resulting from pesticides, fertilizers, and confined animals. Research also was recommended on wastes from urban areas, and whether they would be beneficial or contaminating if deposited on agricultural lands.

The committee, established under the Research and Marketing Act of 1946, is composed of national leaders in the fields of farm resources and facilities.

Co-ops Plan Rural Facilities

Farmer cooperatives are locating 15 of 17 new facilities outside metropolitan areas, according to a Farmer Cooperative Service construction summary for the fourth quarter of 1967.

Facilities for the rural areas will cost an estimated \$30 million, and the two located in cities will cost about \$1,350,000. FCS lists facilities that cost \$500,000 or more and includes construction announced, in progress, or recently completed but not reported previously in an FCS summary.

It's A Corn Plant, Not A Pine Tree

Scientists plan to breed squat corn plants shaped like pine trees to lap up more of the sun's energy. Why?

Light, or the lack of it, is a major factor limiting present-day crop production, Department agronomists report.

Hybrids, fertilizers, irrigation, and modern equipment have already increased crop yields tremendously. Corn, for example, has gone from an average of 65 to more than 100 bushels per acre in the past 10 years. Now, management of light may provide the means for even more dramatic increases.

To test this theory, scientists of the Agricultural Research Service and the University of Illinois installed aluminum reflectors on an experimental corn plot to throw light on the lower parts of the plants. The results: A phenomenal 377-bushel per acre corn yield.

But aluminum reflectors would be too expensive for farm use, so the problem will be tackled by breeding the special corn plants, ARS says. In fact, geneticists might redesign most crop plants with sturdy stems and all leaves exposed to the sun for maximum use of light.

TWO MORE FORESTS TAKE PART IN OPERATION MAINSTREAM

Fifty-three Spanish-Americans have been assigned to "Operation Mainstream" in two National Forests in northern New Mexico.

The 1-year training program, financed by the Department of Labor, is for men over 22 years of age, chronically unemployed, and having family incomes below the poverty line.

Men were assigned to the Santa Fe and Carson National Forests. This is the fourth Operation Mainstream program in which USDA's Forest Service has been the prime employer. Others are under way in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Virginia.

A horse-drawn sprayer, believed to be the oldest USDA-owned agricultural machine, has been transferred to the Smithsonian Institution for display in the Museum of History and Technology in Washington, D.C. The machine, known to be the oldest power sprayer owned by the Department, was used to control gypsy moths in roadside and woodland foliage from 1908 to about 1915, when it was replaced by a truck-mounted model.

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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVII NO. 5
FEB. 29, 1968

COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW . . . PART FOUR—LIVING

Bob Bolton of Frontier Homes, Anadarko, Okla., says that although development efforts are helping keep Caddo County citizens from going to metropolitan areas for better jobs or improved living conditions, "we are going to have to continue to keep the people from moving to big cities."

One way of doing this is by providing housing, he said. In fact, Leon Carver, vice-president for industrial relations, Sequoyah Carpet Mills, says the mill keeps in close contact with Farmers Home Administration (FHA) because "most people want to live near their jobs. There is a need for more housing which FHA can help finance. I think the demand is going to grow terrifically for housing out in these rural areas."

Frontier Homes is a corporation set up by Sequoyah Mills staff members. It operates its home building on a non-profit basis, but owns other profitmaking interests.

Bolton says "our reason for being in housing is . . . to give growth to the State—not so much for the real estate interests."

He estimates the mill needs about 300 more employees and consequently there is a need for 300 more houses within the next 12 to 15 months. So far, the corporation has built 50 homes and has five others under construction in Caddo County. Also, it has 62 applications at FHA, and a waiting list of another 50 people.

Meanwhile, some people are renting, others are even living in garages, so they can live near their jobs.

The county FHA office, according to W. A. Hamilton, supervisor, has led the State in some programs. For example, first housing loan in Oklahoma, 1949; first self-help housing program in the State, started in 1966. The self-help housing program is operated by FHA with an assist from the Office of Economic Opportunity, which pays a construction foreman and supervisor. Billie Bryan, manager of Caddo Electric, a cooperative financed by the Rural Electrification Administration, is project direc-



tor for the program. So far, 10 homes have been built under this program.

Housing isn't the only need in Caddo County. Another is water. Bryan says the water situation "is ticklish." He noted that an engineer is making a survey at the request of the county Technical Action Panel. The water study is part of a comprehensive area-wide planning survey being conducted by a firm of consulting engineers. Don Jarvis, OEO, said the panel meets with the "city fathers" of nearby towns on water and sewer matters. FHA has a loan approved for the town of Gracemont for a sewer system and improvement to its water supply, and a loan to a rural water district at Look-eba for both water and sewer.

Clark McWhorter, FHA State director, said his agency is trying to get a water supply for the area, using Ft. Cobb Lake as a reservoir. Towns in the area, he said, "have a water problem."

In some cases, water is not easy to find. Near Anadarko, the county seat, is an area of red rock cliffs which shoot straight up, contrasting with the predominantly flat land in the State. Small creeks cut their way through the bristly

terrain, and the underbush is tough and stubby.

Hamilton said that after a farmer in this region recently found water on his land, several neighboring farmers drilled wells—but found nothing. The water was there, but only one farmer found it. This is not the story in the whole county, since it is made up of a variety of terrains and soils, but it represents one kind of problem.

Bryan said the parts of the county which have water are rich, but "others which have no water are poorer than Job's turkey." This is, of course, one man's opinion.

And the water situation is improving. Carl Harris, southwestern district supervisor for FHA, pointed out that Oklahoma does not ordinarily get 4 or 5 inches of rain stretched out over a week or month. The 4 or 5 inches usually will fall within 1 day. These heavy rains once washed away the land, creating gullies rather than soaking down to well level or remaining in ponds or fields. But watershed structures and conservation work now help hold water behind dams

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Communities of Tomorrow

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and in the soil, says *A. P. Ottinger*, work unit conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service. For example, Ottinger said, "9 out of 10, or more, of the structures are used for irrigation" by land-owners.

Meanwhile, Technical Action Panel members are awaiting results of the survey and working with local citizens and leaders to solve as many of the problems as they can.

Another need is help for or from young people, and something is being done in this area. Jarvis said that recently 11 VISTA volunteers spent 2 weeks in Caddo County, working with low-income people. And 43 youths were sent to Southwestern State College in 1967 under the Upward Bound program, the follow-up to Operation Head Start. Most of the Head Start children in the county—about 180 out of 228—are rural children.

Senior citizens also are getting help. For example, Anadarko built a rest home about 5 years ago. Now it is undergoing its third expansion. Jarvis doesn't think this is enough, though. He is seeking financial assistance for six rest homes, three centers, and a mobile unit to benefit the 3,800 senior citizens in the county.

And then there's recreation. There are fishing ponds around, and privately owned places where people can go for recreation. But local leaders feel the demand is greater than the availability. Bryan has plans for a recreation facility at Ft. Cobb Lake—for summer, and some winter, sports. So far, there are a few rest rooms and picnic tables at the lake. With these facilities, the lake drew 214,500 people in 1966. Bryan says the facilities he plans will cost about \$3 million.

At first, the idea of such a large, expensive complex was not wholly accepted. But now, Hamilton said, people are beginning to realize that, since the county is growing, such a complex will eventually become an absolute necessity, and another step toward income improvement.

There are many needs in Caddo County, but because people are working together, the needs are gradually being met.

From 1961 through 1967, agricultural exports contributed more than \$32 billion to the U.S. balance of payments.

Copies of a new handbook, "Soil Dynamics in Tillage and Traction," AH-316, are available for \$1.75 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Please use your ZIP code.



Dr. Abel, center, poses at the White House with President Johnson and Arthur S. Flemming, president of the University of Oregon, after whom the award is named.

Dr. Abel Receives Award For Government Service

Dr. Martin E. Abel, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, has received an Arthur S. Flemming Award, which is given to 10 outstanding young men in the Federal Government by the Washington, D.C., Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The 33-year-old international agricultural specialist was selected from among hundreds of nominees by a panel of prominent educators, businessmen, and public officials.

Dr. Abel is the youngest deputy assistant secretary in the history of the Department. The Flemming Award, presented yearly in recognition of meritorious public service, was given to Dr. Abel for his "outstanding contributions in the field of international agriculture" and for his research on Indian food problems.

Dr. Abel joined the Department as an economist in 1961. He attended Cornell University (B.S. 1956) and the University of Minnesota (Ph. D. 1961).

COST REDUCTION AWARDS SET

The Department plans to hold its fourth Cost Reduction Awards Ceremony April 2 in the Administration Building Patio in Washington, D.C.

Agencies have submitted, to the Director of Personnel, nominations for Special USDA Merit Awards for Outstanding Cost Reduction Achievement, which will be presented at the ceremony.

Cost reduction goals are set on a fiscal year basis, and during fiscal 1967 the Department saved \$722 million, exceeding the goal by \$219.1 million.

New goals are \$463.7 million for fiscal 1968 and \$369.1 million for fiscal 1969.

John Sherrod Named Director of National Agricultural Library

Secretary Freeman has announced the appointment of *John Sherrod*, former assistant director for systems development, Atomic Energy Commission, as the new director of the National Agricultural Library.

The former director, *Foster Mohrhardt*, retired Jan. 13. He now is program officer for the Council on Library Resources, Washington, D.C.

Sherrod has assumed responsibility for the Department's 1,300,000-volume collection and for providing the agricultural-biological community with lending, reference, and other library services.

Sherrod, 43, holds a B.S. degree in mathematics from Allegheny College and both B.S. and M.S. degrees in meteorology from Pennsylvania State University. He attended Catholic University's School of Library Science.

State Livestock Grading Service To Have C&MS Official as Head

The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries plans to start a livestock grading service based on USDA grades, with *Lamar A. Harden* of the Consumer and Marketing Service in charge.

Harden is officer-in-charge of the Montgomery Federal-State market news office. He supervises State market news reporters, who will perform the livestock grading in addition to their market news reporting duties.

TAP-CAP Training Planned

A pilot training session is planned to improve the working relationship of personnel of USDA's Technical Action Panels and the Office of Economic Opportunity's Community Action Program.

Farmers Home Administration, whose representatives usually head Technical Action Panels, says OEO is planning the training session through the University of Wisconsin Extension Service. The project originated through the efforts of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture *John A. Baker*, FHA said.

Donald Duxbury and *Saul Blackman*, both of the University of Wisconsin, met recently in Washington, D.C., with *John Lovorn*, FHA's rural renewal director; *Wilton Ward*, economic opportunity loan specialist; and other Federal officials to complete the plans.

The pilot training session is to be held at the Center for Community Leadership Development at the University.

He Follows Job, Not Just Weather—As a Traveling Inspector

Jack Jones winters in Florida, spends a few weeks in Georgia in May, then heads for the Eastern shore of Virginia and Delaware in June. By July 4th, he's usually in Michigan.

It's pretty pleasant weather most of the way, but Jones isn't just following the weather—he's following a job.

In Florida, Jones may start out in late fall riding a mule train—that's a celery packing machine that operates in the field. Workers in the field harvest the celery and put it on conveyors that move it onto the mule train. Automatic equipment cuts the celery to proper length, and workers on the mule train pack it into crates. Jones' job? He inspects the celery for quality.

He's a country shipping point inspector of fruits and vegetables, licensed by the Consumer and Marketing Service. In Florida, he's employed by the Florida State Department of Agriculture, under a cooperative agreement with C&MS.

Inspection by people like Jones helps get good-quality fruits and vegetables to the market, to the processing plant, and eventually to the consumer.

The traveling inspector has to be a pretty knowledgeable man. He may have to know the qualities and defects to look for in several fruits and vegetables, or in some instances up to 40 or more, and he's got to be a competent, impartial judge.

Each type of citrus, for example, has special qualities he must look for. In the packing plant, he selects boxes at random as they come off the packing line so he can get representative samples. He checks each fruit in the sample for shape, color, maturity, disease, scars, dryness—and he cuts open a certain number of them to check for internal defects and taste.

Jones' next job after the celery assignment may be inspecting sweet corn, cucumbers, snap beans, lettuce, potatoes, carrots, or tomatoes. He may work a few weeks in the Sanford district and then in Pompano Beach, Immokalee, Zellwood, Belle Glade, or Homestead as the various crops come in.

The citrus season keeps him in Florida for the longest time—5 to 8 months. He may start work in a packing plant inspecting grapefruit or oranges—and later, tangelos and tangerines.

Inspection of all citrus and citrus products is required by State law in Florida, and of some fruits and vegetables in other States. But for the most part, inspection is voluntary and is made because the grower or shipper requests it.

When the citrus season in Florida

ends, about the last of May, Jones moves to Georgia to work for the Georgia Department of Agriculture, inspecting peaches. In June he may be employed by the Virginia or Delaware Department of Agriculture to inspect potatoes and various vegetables for the fresh market or processing.

And by July 4th, he's likely to be in Michigan for the cherry season.

Jack Jones is typical of more than 600 country shipping point inspectors on the East Coast who travel from State to State each year to help in the marketing of tons of perishable fresh fruits and vegetables.

Traveling inspectors are part of the force of about 4,200 men in the Federal-State Inspection Service operated nationwide by C&MS in cooperation with State departments of agriculture or other State agencies. Shippers and packers who want to have their produce inspected pay a fee, established by the State agency, to cover the costs of inspection.

School Breakfast Program Hailed As an 'Overwhelming Success'

The pilot School Breakfast Program, administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service, has been so successful the Johnson Administration has proposed extending it as a permanent child feeding program.

The program, which was enacted 2 years ago as part of the Child Nutrition Act, has been called an "overwhelming success."

About 80,000 children received school breakfasts last year, and the number is expected to reach 160,000 by the end of this year.

And the Administration has a series of other special programs and projects under way to expand the reach of food assistance programs and to improve the level of nutrition among low-income families throughout the country. They include:

—Project 331, aimed at starting a family food assistance program in the 331 counties—primarily rural—with the lowest per capita income where no food program is now available;

—Operation Metropolitan, aimed at bringing 2.8 million school children in the major metropolitan areas into the School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs for the first time;

—Project Food Stamp, aimed at improving the rate of participation in the Food Stamp Program areas through modifications.

Forest Service Kept Northwest Area From 'Going to Blazes'

Fires in the National Forests during 1967 burned 125,000 acres fewer than in 1966, despite the devastation during one "crisis month" in the Pacific Northwest.

From August 11 to September 11, severe lightning storms, drought, and high winds caused more than 2,000 forest fires in that area, bringing the total National Forest acreage burned to 208,326.

To meet the crisis, the Forest Service mobilized the biggest concentrated forest fire attack in its history. It included 15,000 men, 700 aircraft, and hundreds of bulldozers. Others battling blazes on their own State, private, National Park, and Bureau of Land Management lands pushed the total at the peak of the fire crisis to 22,000 men and 900 aircraft.

For the first time, the Forest Service supported many of its ground crews with helicopters dropping chemicals.

The Forest Service rushed in organized firefighting crews from throughout the Western States, as well as trained local volunteers. More than 900 Forest Service supervisory and specialist personnel were flown to the Pacific Northwest from all parts of the country to direct the fire suppression work. The nerve center of this national mobilization was the Forest Service's National Fire Control Coordination Center in Washington, D.C.

The Northwest's unremitting drought and continuous "dry" lightning storms during August 1967 paralleled conditions during 1910—one of the most disastrous fire years on record, when more than 4 million acres of National Forest land were blackened.

Pennsylvania Takes Step Toward Conservation Education Center

The Pennsylvania General Assembly has taken a major step toward setting up a conservation education center as one of 80 measures proposed for the Penn Soil Resource Conservation and Development Project.

The group passed a law providing \$50,000 for the purchase of 200 acres on which to build the center, which will cost \$1 million to be provided by further legislation.

The conservation education center will serve teachers, students, and youth groups from all parts of the Nation. It will be administered by Clarion State College. Local sponsors estimate the center will increase the area's income by \$100,000 yearly.

ESSA Unit Moves Into USDA

The Agricultural Climatology Service, a unit of the Commerce Department's Environmental Science Services Administration, has moved into USDA's South Building in Washington, D.C.

The unit is to provide timely information about climate and its impact on agriculture. Research defining relationships between agriculture and the environment will continue in several co-operating universities. ESSA's State climatologists and USDA's State statisticians will furnish current estimates of conditions and programs, limited only by the dictates of technology and economics, the Office of Management Services explained.

Dr. Gerald Barger, formerly with the Soil Conservation Service and now head of the ESSA unit, will be assisted by John L. Baldwin, who has been editor of the national "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin" for 23 years, according to the Office of Management Services. Since 1872, when it was first printed, the bulletin has been a joint effort of the Departments of Commerce and Agriculture.

In its new location, the ESSA unit expects to be able to improve its service to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the Agricultural Research Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, and Cooperative State Research Service.

Created in 1965 by merging the Weather Bureau, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the Central Radio Propagation Laboratory, ESSA provides a single focus for national efforts to describe, understand, and predict man's natural environment.

Merit System Improves Yearly

Year by year, the merit system which is in its 85th year, has become more responsive, more flexible, and better equipped to meet the changing needs of a changing public service.

At its inception, only 10 percent of Federal jobs were filled competitively. Today the figure is between 86 and 87 percent.

Today's career civil service numbers more than 2.5 million people, engaged in some of the most far-reaching and important work in the world.

A substantial part of the progress has been recent. Civil Service Commission Chairman John W. Macy, Jr., says "The last 5 years have produced more programs, and more vital ones, to improve



Don't Combine DIFFERENT PESTICIDES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agri Briefs

The average U.S. farmer can now produce as much before breakfast as he did in a full day 30 years ago. One average person in U.S. agriculture today supplies abundantly the food and fiber needs of more than 40 persons—compared with 26 persons in 1960 and 10 persons 30 years ago.

Copies of a revised bulletin, "Lawn Insects: How to Control Them," Home and Garden Bulletin No. 53, are available at \$.15 each from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Please include your ZIP code.

More than 25 million people living in rural America receive the benefits of electric and telephone service through systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration.

Secretary Freeman has announced apportionment of more than \$266 million among the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and four territories to aid the Nation's school lunch, milk, and pilot breakfast programs this school year.

Secretary Freeman has signed a working agreement with the newly formed Ste. Genevieve County Soil and Water Conservation District in Missouri.

and advance the quality of public service in the Federal Government than any 5 years since 1883, when civil service began to command respect."

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Spotlight on People

Hubert W. Kelley succeeds D. Harper Simms as director of the Soil Conservation Service Information Division. Kelley has been assistant director of the Agricultural Research Service Information Division. Simms, retiring after 31 years of Federal service, has been head of SCS information work since 1951.

Dr. Herbert J. Dutton, head of Agricultural Research Service studies in chemical and physical properties of oilseeds at the Northern utilization research laboratory, Peoria, Ill., has been chosen to receive the Alton E. Bailey Achievement Medal from the North Central Section of the American Oil Chemists' Society. Dr. Dutton will present the award address and receive a bronze medal at a dinner in Chicago.

Bertha C. Olson, Consumer and Marketing Service, received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree during recent Founders' Day observances at Montana State University, Bozeman. Mrs. Olson, a native of the Bozeman area, is chief, Technical Services Branch, School Lunch Division, stationed at the Pomponio Plaza building, Arlington, Va.

Robert E. Wester, senior horticulturist with the Agricultural Research Service, has been honored for his outstanding achievements in lima bean breeding. He developed lima bean varieties resistant to heat, nematodes, downy mildew, and anthracnose.

Dr. Ruth R. Benerito, research chemist and investigations leader at the Department's Southern Utilization Research and Development Division, New Orleans, has been named by the U.S. Civil Service Commission to receive the Federal Woman's Award for 1968. She was named to receive the award for her substantial contributions to the Southern Division's research efforts to develop new and improved finishes for cotton fabrics and a fat emulsion for intravenous feeding of patients unable to take nourishment by mouth.

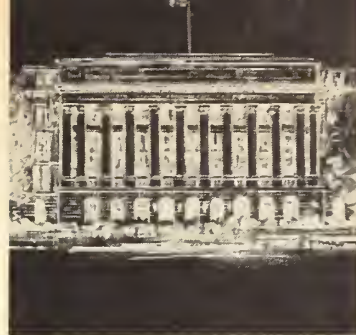
Harry M. Major replaces Herbert A. Flueck as State conservationist for Minnesota.

In 1967 alone, Macy said, President Johnson directed the CSC to initiate four important new programs designed to streamline and strengthen Federal personnel management.

APR 11 1968

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVII NO. 6
MARCH 14, 1968

COMMUNITIES OF TOMORROW . . . PART FIVE—THE LAND (Last in a Series)

Caddo County, Okla., has become "almost self-sufficient" and "gets things done without much . . . from us," says R. Hershel Burrus, executive director of the State office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

By "us," Burrus was referring to members of the State Technical Action Panel (TAP). Technical Action Panels are composed of USDA personnel stationed in field offices across the Nation, plus local officials of other Federal, State, and local agencies that offer programs useful to nonmetropolitan people, businesses, and governments. These panels work with local and State governments, development organizations, and community leaders to help them identify the assistance they need for economic, social, and cultural growth.

Burrus says in Caddo County the local leaders and the TAP members suggest improvements to each other and then work together to carry them out.

For example, Burrus cited the improvements in agriculture that have been brought about by this sense of cooperation and pulling together.

Caddo County has good soil, even though it has taken quite a bit of conservation work in some areas to make the land usable. Now, Burrus said, it is the biggest agricultural county in Oklahoma.

The main crop in the county is Spanish peanuts. The county's farmers didn't always make money on peanuts though. The first irrigation well was drilled in 1949. Total cash peanut sales that year came to \$3,200. In 1962, sales came to \$7 million with about 600 irrigation wells. Last year, with 856 wells, peanut sales were about \$9 million, and they are expected to be about the same for 1967. This is an interesting accomplishment, considering that there are 36 townships in the county, and peanut irrigation in only 6 or 7 of them.

Overall, there are about 30,000 acres of cropland under irrigation in Caddo County, ranking it about 4th or 5th in the State. Irrigation from farm ponds, watershed flood prevention sites, and the



Washita River make up about 25 percent of the county's irrigation, and offers the largest potential for expanding irrigation.

The county Farmers Home Administration office, according to W. A. Hamilton, supervisor, made 100 loans 1 year (1955, right after the 1954 drought) for irrigation. "When we showed what we could do," he said, "other lenders came in" bringing about an increase in farmer income, and "industries came in to service the wells and sprinklers."

According to Alvin (Buck) Clements, assistant State conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, irrigation as well as fertilizers and insecticides make agriculture successful in the county, because "the soil is good."

Harold Liles, county Extension agent, says a key factor in the development of Caddo County was that there were "enough farmers scattered around who were receptive to new ideas."

How receptive? Liles said that one time 250 showed up during a snowstorm for a meeting he called on irrigation.

Indicating the importance of irrigation, Liles says farmers "used to not be able to make a living on 160 acres," but now they can.

Another land-improver which has helped raise a few family incomes is fertilizer. Liles, who has been instrumental in promoting fertilizer use in Caddo County, says 27 families there make a living supplying fertilizer alone.

Business and industry have improved. livestock and crop yields and sales have increased—all because of such things as better know-how, better methods, better fertilizer.

Orvis McMahan, county officer manager for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, says his office has the largest ASCS workload in the State, spending almost \$4 million a year on support programs for cotton, feed grains, and wheat. McMahan mentioned that peanut price support is administered through the Commodity Credit Corporation in Caddo County.

He said there are about "3,000 farm
(continued on page 2)

Communities of Tomorrow

(continued from 1)

units in the county which are actively participating in the various (ASCS) programs."

Besides handling these programs, McMahan said, the Agricultural Stabilization Committee is always in contact with county farmers in a TAP role, getting information to them on Medicare, conservation, when or where to apply. "We have the means to get the word to the people," he said.

The Sugar Creek Watershed Project has helped improve the agricultural picture. Three other watershed projects which are nearing construction stage—Tonkawa Creek Watershed, Little Washita, and Reach 2 Watershed along the Washita River—will further strengthen the agricultural economy of the county by conserving water and protecting the land from erosion, siltation, and pollution.

Hamilton said heavy rains in September 1966 would have caused flooding, but didn't because watershed projects have "flood damage pretty well eliminated."

A. P. Ottinger, Soil Conservation Service work unit conservationist, said the Sugar Creek Watershed Project is about halfway completed, noting that 47 structures, mostly for flood prevention, are planned for the project. About 35 of these are completed. Also, 22 miles of channel improvement is scheduled on Sugar Creek, 10 miles of which has already been completed. There are eight flood prevention sites planned on the Little Washita, 27 sites on individual creeks draining directly into the Washita River, and 13 sites and 6 miles of channel improvement on Tonkawa Creek.

The completed structures, he said, are "taking a big part out of the floods," and at the same time are eliminating flooding in some areas.

Construction of these structures, Ottinger added, has given the county's economy a boost, providing business for motels, restaurants, fuel suppliers.

Caddo County comes under the Great Plains Conservation Program. Under this program, Ottinger said, he spent \$36,000 in contracts in 1966 and had about \$50,000 in mind for 1967. "The Great Plains Conservation Program is getting 100 percent value on every dollar" it spends on the program.

Besides the watershed dams and other flood prevention work, another program Ottinger feels is important is clearing timber. Some people, he said, would criticize this on the grounds that it is "destroying the natural beauty" of the area, but timber cover "is not adequate to control gully erosion."

Forest Service 'Nickels & Dimes' Activities Benefit Rural People

"Many is the time when I would have starved if the Forest Service hadn't sold me a little timber," Clayton Peterson recently said.

Peterson, a mountain farmer from western North Carolina, made the statement to District Forest Ranger Helton Carmichael when they were discussing the Forest Service policy of selling small amounts of timber to landowners living adjacent to National Forest lands.

Peterson is a 67-year-old farmer who has lived his entire life in the remote areas of the southern Appalachian

Erosion from gullies in pastures is one of the worst problems, he said. Scrubby timber, Ottinger explained, provides a canopy to keep out light and uses up moisture, preventing vegetation from growing thick enough to stop erosion. Now, when areas are cleared they are planted to weeping love grass and some bermuda that keep the land from washing.

Before this project, Ottinger said, it took 20 to 40 acres to graze one cow for a year. Now it can be done on 2 or 3 acres a year.

He said that, partially because of this program, Caddo is "one of the counties that have increasing cattle numbers and better pastures." He said that because of the timber clearing and irrigation, farmers do not have to graze their pastures as closely as they used to.

Ottinger feels that "each dollar agriculture brings in is multiplied seven or eight times before it's through."

Most of the people mentioned and quoted in this series of articles are members of Technical Action Panels.

Although they are concerned with the work of their agencies, they have another job—actually a big part of their job—to help the people learn about and use Federal programs for individual and community advancement. This advancement can take many forms: Job-providing industries or businesses; housing; agriculture and conservation; water and sewer systems; recreation enterprises; and many others.

The TAP members in Caddo County, regardless of agency affiliation, work together and with the people to help make these improvements and build "Communities of Tomorrow."

mountains of North Carolina. His small farm is surrounded by lands of the Pisgah National Forest. He has been a cooperator with the Forest Service for the 46 years he has worked his farm—which is in an isolated mountain cove, 12 miles from the nearest neighboring farm, with no access except a rough jeep road hacked out of the wilderness by his own initiative.

Peterson has been buying small amounts of Forest Service timber for 25 years, realizing yearly returns of up to \$700. He feels he has been tided over many times by the cash he received from cutting timber.

He believes he probably would have had to move off his farm many years ago if he had been forced to sustain the farm and his family—which includes 12 children—from farm income alone.

A major factor in his independence and ability to remain on his farm has been income from small sales of timber which he bought from the National Forest.

The Forest Service sells 11.5 billion board feet of timber yearly in the United States. Small timber sales are a minute percentage of this amount, but are important to small landowners and timber operators who use the proceeds of their little sales "to stave the wolf from their door."

The sale of small amounts of timber to local landowners like Peterson, and to small operators, is standard policy with the Forest Service. These sales are small in volume and value so people with small investments can independently harvest National Forest timber.

The policy often enables rural populations in and around National Forests to remain stable rather than migrate to the cities. Farmers who have no income in off-harvest seasons can realize income by buying National Forest timber to resell; small sawmillers may remain in business in the face of big lumber mills which offer competition they can't meet in bidding for large volumes of timber; local people may find work at these small mills; and small independent timber operators may buy small volumes of timber for resale to the small mills without the investment needed to bid on a million-board-foot timber sale.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's April list. Featured are: *turkeys*. Other plentifuls include *pork*, *milk* and *dairy products*, *peanuts* and *peanut products*, *North Pacific halibut steaks*, and *potatoes*.

Don't forget the gift of life



RED CROSS BLOOD PROGRAM

Crop Insurance Corporation Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Thirty years ago, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law an Act of Congress creating the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.

Designed to offer farmers insurance in an amount about equal to their crop investment, the program had a meager beginning—offering only wheat protection.

Today, according to Secretary Freeman, Federal Crop Insurance is bringing a measure of assurance in an increasingly risky business to a third of a million farmers in 39 States and nearly 1,400 counties—who now carry more than \$3½ billion in protection on 25 separate crops. The crops are principally wheat, cotton, corn, tobacco, soybeans, and grain sorghum—but they include others, from California oranges to Florida grapefruit, and from Washington State apples to Oklahoma peanuts.

"Federal Crop Insurance has more than doubled its operation in participation and protection over the last 6 years," Secretary Freeman said.

The first American farmer to receive a loss payment from Federal Crop Insurance, Secretary Freeman reported, was *John F. Briggs* of Lockney (Floyd County), Tex. On April 16, 1939, he received an FCIC settlement check for \$129.32 because he had 75 percent coverage on his 52½ acres of wheat when weather demolished the crop. The payment, records show, was the cash equivalent of 244 bushels of wheat. It was the first complete failure his wheat crop had suffered in 20 years. That year FCIC paid over \$5.5 million on 56,000 wheat losses.

In contrast, FCIC is paying at least \$51.5 million on 83,000 claims for damage to 1967 crops.

More than \$775 million in farm crop production investments were protected by Federal Crop Insurance in 1967, the highest amount in what was then its 29-year history. Nearly 450,000 crops on about 17 million acres were insured against production cost losses from natural hazards.

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for April include: A Grand Bahama holiday; a day in Amish country Pennsylvania; Virginia house and gardens; Annapolis, Md.; and New York City.

For information or membership applications: *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, phone DU 8-5611.



USDA is now part of a coordinated Federal effort to provide manpower services designed to raise the levels of living in both rural and urban areas. The Department has joined the Cooperative Area Manpower Planning System (CAMPS), a Government-wide project to link Federal efforts with resources at State and local levels. Continuing communication about needs and services will permit the eight participating Federal departments to serve those requiring help with a minimum duplication of resources. The CAMPS operation was discussed recently by John A. Baker, center, USDA assistant secretary; Dr. Henry Taylor, left, education and training assistant to the administrator, Rural Community Development Service; and Dr. John Walsh, assistant manpower administrator for the Labor Department and chairman of the National Manpower Coordinating Committee.

President Signs Bill Amending the Commodity Exchange Act

The first substantial amendments to the Commodity Exchange Act since 1936 have been signed into law by President Johnson.

The new law makes changes in regulation, by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Commodity Exchange Commission, of futures trading in certain agricultural commodities.

The bill (H.R. 13094) containing the amendments had the active support of major farm organizations, according to Secretary Freeman. Effective date of the new law is June 19—120 days after enactment.

A major change made is to add livestock and livestock products to the commodities regulated. Futures markets in these commodities have an annual trading volume of about 2.5 million transactions, valued at about \$12.4 billion. Trading involves live beef cattle, western live beef cattle, carcass beef, live hogs, frozen pork bellies, frozen hams, choice steers, and hides.

Other changes include:

1. For the first time brokerage firms handling customers' trades in regulated commodities will be required to meet specified minimum financial standards.
2. Any person who, after a hearing and opportunity for appeal to the Federal courts, has been found to be unfit to handle customers' trades and funds, may be denied registration as futures commission merchant or floor broker.
3. The fraud provisions of the act, which now apply only to members of contract markets and their employees or agents, will be extended to any other person who handles customer trading.
4. Price manipulation and other major

offenses will be prosecuted as felonies rather than misdemeanors (as at present), and embezzlement of customer's funds will become a felony under the act.

5. The Secretary of Agriculture will be authorized to issue cease and desist orders, after full opportunity for hearing and appeal to the courts, in cases where persons have been found guilty of violation of the law.

6. Contract markets will be required to enforce their own rules relating to contract terms and other trading requirements.

7. Any person who executes trades for any other person on the floor of a regulated market will be required to register with the Secretary of Agriculture as a floor broker and be subject to the requirements of the act and regulations.

Farm Product Demand May Rise

The Nation's output of goods and services, employment, and consumer income is expected to rise more rapidly in 1968 than in 1967, further expanding the demand for farm products, the Economic Research Service says.

Prospects for the first 6 months of 1968 are for total livestock marketings to continue around the record levels of a year earlier, and livestock product prices may average slightly higher.

Although lower prices for grains and soybeans have stimulated domestic use and exports, January 1 stocks were well above last year's. By January, average crop prices had moved above year-earlier levels, due primarily to smaller supplies of cotton and most fruits.

Top ASCS County Office Chosen

A relatively small Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office—consisting of a manager and two clerks—has been cited as the Number One ASCS county office in the Nation.

The office serves Rio Arriba County, N. Mex., and was chosen after a recent evaluation of ASCS field offices. *Horace D. Godfrey*, administrator, cited the office for its overall excellence of operation—particularly for the staff's pioneering efforts in administering programs to help farmers and ranchers of Spanish and Indian descent improve their farmland resources through participation in Federal farm programs.

Fred Romero, manager, and program clerks *Clarabelle Ortiz* and *Ramona Jiron* work as a team with a farmer-elected ASC county committee—*Pat Martin*, chairman; and *Elesio Valdez* and *Tony Schmitz, Jr.*, members.

Last year the team held 26 community meetings in the county to give farmers and ranchers firsthand information about ASCS soil and water conservation programs. Bureau of Indian Affairs officials helped the team develop projects and obtain farmer participation on Indian lands.

Romero credits much of the farm program success to a countywide bilingual approach. Program information, instructions, USDA publications, and newspaper and radio news and features all receive the two-language treatment.

ASCS personnel also spent 52 man-days last year working with the county Technical Action Panel and other government agencies to help plan and promote rural areas development projects in the county.

Recent completed accomplishments include:

- 14 community irrigation systems rehabilitated and updated.

- Special cost-share rates offered to small-acreage, low-income farmers.

- Inclusion of the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation in the 4-Corners Special Project under the Agricultural Conservation Program. This project emphasizes conservation practices necessary for good range management, such as fencing, brush control, reseeding grasses, water developments, impoundments, and distribution systems.

- Emergency conservation assistance to 511 low-income farm families to rehabilitate farmland and irrigation ditches severely damaged in floods caused by heavy rains last August.



REA Pilot Program Is Launched To Help Improve Farmer Income

A pilot program has been launched by the Rural Electrification Administration in which nine rural electric cooperatives and a public power district, all financed by REA, will help small farmers improve their incomes through more productive use of electricity by tailoring power use to needs on their farms.

This is the first step in a program to improve income for small farmers across the country and thus help them to resist the economic pressures that may force many of them to migrate to the cities. This specific effort grew out of 120 county-level meetings held by USDA staff and small farmers during December and January. The REA program was one of 30 proposals reviewed and discussed at these meetings.

Staff members of the co-ops and the power district will help small farm families to: Identify instances in which new equipment and appliances will increase efficiency and productivity; find sources of financing; and start new crop or livestock production where feasible.

Farmers Home Administration and Extension Service will work with REA and the co-ops on the program.

Areas taking part in the pilot program are Greenville, Ala.; Fayetteville, Ark.; Cortez, Colo.; Greenville, Ill.; Hollandale, Miss.; Sidney, Nebr.; Taos, N. Mex.; Carlington, N. Dak.; St. Clairsville, Ohio; and Dayton, Va.

Co-op to Supply Electric Power To Eskimos, Aleuts, Indians

The Rural Electrification Administration, working with other agencies, has helped organize a new cooperative which will supply electric power to about 20,000 Eskimos, Aleuts, and Indians in 67 villages in remote areas of Alaska.

REA says that because of severe weather conditions, lack of roads, and mountainous terrain, the areas are unlike any previously reached under the rural electrification program.

The Co-op, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc., has headquarters in Anchorage. It is Statewide in scope, and is primarily to supply power to the natives.

More than a year ago, REA, the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Labor, and the Alaska State Government launched a feasibility study on the project. State officials and the University of Alaska helped gather available data.

Recently, OEO approved a \$229,220 Community Action Program grant to the cooperative, the first phase of a proposed 3-year, \$750,000 OEO grant program to finance the co-op's administrative and operating costs, including salaries for a manager, engineer, and other personnel. Financing for construction and installation of electric facilities is proposed under the REA rural electric loan program, and is estimated at \$3 to \$4 million.

The plan calls for portable self-contained diesel generating units as power sources for each village, with service to homes and other installations through underground cables. When a unit needs overhauling, it will be flown to Anchorage and replaced.

REA says personnel to operate the systems will be recruited from among village residents, with training provided by the Labor Department. The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the State will supply supplementary services.

The cooperative will be owned and operated by its members—the people receiving the electric service.

Farm signup for participation in the 1968 feed grain program jumped to 509,784 farms as of February 15, according to the second report of the February 5–March 15 signup period issued by the Department. A week earlier, the total had been 229,981. Farms signed up in the second report intend to divert 12,201,310 acres of cropland from production of corn and grain sorghum.

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USDA

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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3 STATES SIGN AGREEMENT ON INSPECTION OF MEAT

State inspectors will take over the meat inspection job from Federal employees in Illinois, Virginia, and California.

The three States recently signed cooperative agreements with the Department to set up joint Federal-State meat inspection programs, under which State meat inspectors will be licensed to conduct Federal inspection in individually approved packing and processing plants. Consumer and Marketing Service, which administers the Federal program, says inspection will be conducted under the Federal Meat Inspection Act and Regulations, and only after each plant has been jointly surveyed and approved by Federal and State officials.

The State people will be licensed to perform specific types of inspection, and Federal supervision will continue in each plant.

C&MS says each plant will be assigned an identification number, and labels will require Federal approval. Meat and meat products produced in these plants will be eligible for shipment across State lines.

USDA and the States will share the costs of the programs.

INTREDIS System Is Added To Pesticides Information Center

The Pesticides Information Center of the National Agricultural Library has taken on a new responsibility—literature search for the International Tree Disease Register System for Literature Retrieval in Forest Pathology (INTREDIS).

The system contains locators for more than 18,000 abstracts which can be searched by subject, host, country, casual organism, or first author for articles dating from 1930 to 1967.

Dr. George H. Hepting, Forest Service, will continue to be responsible for the indexing input into the system. He will serve as a consultant to the Pesticides Information Center to assure integrity and continuity of the search system.

Secretary Freeman To Lead Trade Mission to Far East

Secretary Freeman plans to lead a special trade promotion mission April 3-13 to Japan and Taiwan—countries which together comprise a booming market for American farm products.

The mission, the Secretary said, "is to establish and strengthen high level contacts among the government and business leaders in these countries who make the ultimate decisions as to what agricultural products will be imported, how much, and from whom."

To this basic purpose, he continued, "we are adding a new dimension that we have not had in our trade missions in the past—and this will be the furtherance of direct contacts with consumers, the people who have the ultimate voice as to whether our products will be purchased in the food shops. This responsibility will be carried out by the women members of the mission."

Japan and Taiwan bought \$1.1 billion worth of American farm products in fiscal year 1967—more than 86 percent in the form of dollar-earning commercial purchases. They are leading buyers in the Far East for U.S. exports of wheat, feed grains, soybeans, rice, tobacco, cotton, tallow, hides and skins, fruits, vegetables, and poultry.

The trade mission will be made up of Members of Congress, governors from agricultural States, farm organization leaders, and agricultural trade specialists.

The first stop will be Tokyo, where Secretary Freeman will open a U.S. Food and Agricultural Exhibition which is being held April 5-21 under joint sponsorship of the Department, 12 participating State governments, U.S. agricultural commodity groups, and the U.S. food industry. It will be the largest U.S. food sales promotion event held to date in the Far East.

The Secretary and other mission members will meet with Japanese leaders in a series of trade conferences in Tokyo. Japanese participants will include government officials, trade association leaders, and food and fiber importers, processors, and distributors.

After a week in Tokyo, congressional

members of the mission, farm and trade leaders, and five of the State governors will accompany Secretary Freeman on the trip to Taiwan. Five governors will remain in Tokyo to be hosts to a series of trade promotion events featuring U.S. agricultural regions. Ten additional governors who expect to accompany the Secretary only as far as Toyko will continue on to visit counterpart Japanese prefectural governors as part of a long-established State Department program under which U.S. and Japanese governors have been exchanging visits in alternate years.

For those wives who accompany the mission members, there will be special trade promotion activities, such as taking part in the opening of American food promotions in some Tokyo department stores, and radio, TV, and food editor interviews.

Grain Farmers' Problem Solved

There was a slight problem in the Midwest, but the grain farmers of the East had a bigger one.

The problem in the Midwest was simply that there were 6,771 Commodity Credit Corporation grain storage bins standing empty. They just weren't needed. But the eastern farmers did need them. They were expecting a bumper crop, and without extra bins they might have been forced to sell their grain on a glutted harvest-time market in the East—an area which has a shortage of both on-farm and warehouse storage facilities.

So, to help solve the problem, employees of the Bin Storage Division of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service directed the transfer of the surplus CCC bins from the Midwest for sale to farmers in 15 eastern States.

The bins, each of which had a 3,250-bushel capacity, cost the farmers an average of \$470, which included a minimum price plus dismantling and transportation charges.

USDA, Committeemen Helping Texans Repair Damaged Land

Elected ASC committeemen and Department employees are helping southern Texas farmers and ranchers whose land was devastated last fall by Hurricane Beulah.

When the storm hit in late September 1967, floodwaters rose in 24 Texas counties—and some of the water was still on the land as late as February of this year, mostly in the Rio Grande Valley. Some highways were still impassable in Willacy, Cameron, and Hidalgo counties.

Members of the Texas State ASC (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation) Committee toured the area in late January to see the storm damage. They were joined by other farm leaders, including representatives of the Soil Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration, Texas Extension, and other agricultural officials.

Besides flooded areas, they found severe erosion and destruction on once-fertile lands which had produced cotton and a variety of vegetables—lettuce, cabbage, onions, beets, spinach, tomatoes, and celery, as well as cantaloups, honeydews, and watermelons. Grapefruit and orange groves generally survived the flooding, but most of the winter crop of these citrus fruits was lost.

Emergency ACP, the disaster phase of the Agricultural Conservation Program, was instantly made available to stricken farmers. The Texas ASC committee allocated \$4,873,674 in emergency funds for the recovery work, which included land leveling, smoothing, earthen dam construction, restoration of concrete ditches and pipes, rebuilding of levees, and restoration of grass cover on pastureland.

Many farmers spent \$15,000 or more on recovery work. A limit of \$2,500 per farm was placed on the ASC emergency aid, but farmers regarded it as substantial help with their work.

All agricultural workers in the area pulled out the stops to help stricken farmers, including SCS technicians who helped with advice on restoration work.

Farm to Consumer: \$58 Billion

It cost \$58 billion to get the Nation's food supply from farm to consumer last year—\$2.7 billion above the 1966 level.

The Economic Research Service expects the cost to go up again this year, mainly because of rising marketing costs per unit handled and the growing volume of products.



Harry Pullin, performance supervisor for the Live Oak County ASCS office, points to cultivated field which was still flooded 4 months after the storm.



During a tour of Rio Grande Valley, committee members and other agricultural leaders saw several mud flats like this one in Willacy County.

NAL Dictionary Catalog Printed

The Department has published the first 10 volumes of a reference work that will make it easier for employees to find publications they are looking for in the National Agricultural Library.

The "Dictionary Catalog of the National Agricultural Library, 1862-1965," brings together close to 1.5 million author, title, and subject cards, arranged in a single alphabet, for all books and journals added to the library collection from 1862 through 1965.

Library officials say that availability of the printed catalog enables scientific and research personnel, regardless of their physical location, to determine promptly what published information is available in the library.

In addition to comprehensive coverage of general agricultural materials, the collection is strong in such fields as chemistry, botany, veterinary medicine, forestry, entomology, agricultural economics, and agricultural statistics.

Purchase information about the library's catalogs, including details of a budget purchase plan for the "Dictionary Catalog," is available from the publishers, Rowman and Littlefield, Inc., 84 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011.

Planners Are Called Together To Prepare for Co-op Month

The Department is calling together representatives of other Federal Departments and agencies and private national cooperative organizations to plan the 1968 Co-op Month observance, Secretary Freeman has announced.

Co-op Month is celebrated each October. Originating as a popular celebration nearly 40 years ago, its observance has spread across the country. Last fall 29 State governors proclaimed Co-op Month, 10 additional States also had Co-op Month activities, and President Johnson officially opened the celebration at a rally in the Departmental Auditorium in Washington, D.C.

A third of the Nation's families share ownership of cooperatives. They include credit unions, farmers' marketing and supply co-ops, consumer-owned supermarkets, and others.

"Cooperatives have particular significance in our concentrated effort to bring a better day to town and country," Secretary Freeman said. "In 1967, these home-grown rural industries put at least \$225 million worth of new investments into plants and facilities in their own rural communities.

"Co-op Month 68 will recognize what these user-owned businesses have already done to bring jobs, added income, and leadership to their communities.

"But more important," he emphasized, "is the stimulus to cooperatives to seek out new dimensions to the job of making their communities more prosperous, new directions for business growth and service, new leadership resources for the vital and necessary task of creating a better rural America."

WORLD OUTPUT IS RECORD

World agricultural output hit a record high last year, and per capita agricultural production in less-developed areas went up 5 to 6 percent from the 1966 level.

These are highlights from the Economic Research Service's annual report.

The report reviews such items as production gains in less-developed countries, world grain supplies, India's agricultural recovery, the Middle East conflict, the devalued pound sterling, competition for the Japanese market, and changes in cotton output.

Single copies of the World Agricultural Situation, FAER 38, are available free on postcard request from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please use your ZIP code.

WRAPUP OF EMPLOYEE LAWS PASSED BY 90TH CONGRESS

Following is a summary of legislation affecting Federal employees which was passed during the first session of the 90th Congress and signed into law by the President.

APPEALS—Public Law 90-206 extends to wage board employees the right to appeal the classification of their positions to the Civil Service Commission.

CAREER STATUS (TAPER CONVERSIONS)—Public Law 90-105 provides for the acquisition of career status by certain temporary employees of the Federal Government who meet the following conditions:

(1) Complete 3 years of service without a break of more than 30 days; postal employees must have been paid for at least 700 hours of work each year;

(2) Pass a suitable noncompetitive examination;

(3) Are recommended to the Commission for conversion by the appointing authority who certifies that their performance has been satisfactory for the past 12 months; and

(4) Meet qualification requirements for the position.

The Act requires the appointing agency to terminate General Schedule and Wage Board employees who do not meet the conditions listed under 2 and 4 above within 90 days after completing 3 years of service. Section 3 repeals the numerical ceiling (Whitten Amendment) on career employees.

ETHICS (NEPOTISM)—Public Law 90-206 places restrictions on the appointment, employment, and promotion of relatives by public officials, including the President, Members of Congress, members of the uniformed services, officers and employees of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Government and of the Government of the District of Columbia; authorizes their temporary employment under certain conditions, subject to regulations prescribed by the Civil Service Commission.

HAZARD BENEFITS—Public Law 90-221 authorizes payment of special travel expenses to reunite families of employees serving in hazardous areas; and continuation of medical benefits beyond the date of separation when an injury or illness was incurred during service in a hostile area. The Act also authorizes up to 1 year's absence without charge to leave as a result of illness of injury incurred in a hostile action.

LIFE INSURANCE—Public Law 90-206 increases and improves benefits under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance program as follows:

Increases the regular life insurance available to all employees by providing the larger of a \$10,000 minimum policy or a policy in the amount of the employee's annual salary rounded to the next higher \$1,000 plus \$2,000, to a maximum of \$32,000 which will be automatically raised in the future to correspond with Level II of the Executive Schedule;

Places the program on a sound actuarial basis by requiring that the premium rate cover the actual level cost of the insurance.

The Act also authorizes the Civil Service Commission to obtain and make available to insured employees, for purchase at their own option and at their own expense additional life insurance in amounts determined by the Commission, but not to exceed \$10,000.

PAY—Public Law 90-206 provides as follows:

Title II provides a 4.5 percent increase in the statutory salary rates for employees subject to the General Schedule, employees in Foreign Service, and in the Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans Administration.

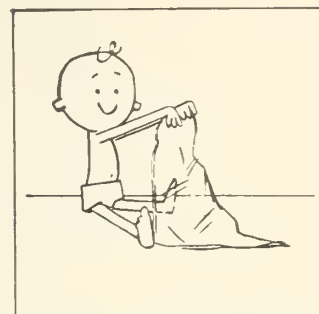
Section 205 creates a 21-level pay schedule for the Postal Field Service in lieu of 20 levels under the old schedule, and provides a 6 percent increase for Postal Field Service employees, and a 5 percent increase effective in July 1968.

Section 212 provides for further increases effective in July 1968, except for Postal Field Service, to close one-half of the comparability gap between certain Federal salaries and rates of pay for comparable positions of responsibility in private enterprise, and increases in July 1969 to close the comparability gap for employees subject to all statutory salary schedules including the Postal Field Service.

Section 207 raises the ceiling on special starting salaries of short-supply employees from the 7th statutory pay rate to the maximum (10th) statutory rate.

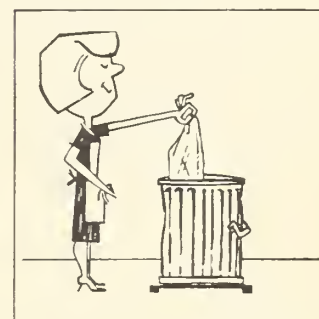
Section 225 provides for establishing a quadrennial Commission on Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Salaries, beginning with fiscal year 1969, which will be responsible for recommending to the President appropriate pay levels for top officials in the three branches of Government and appropriate relationships between pay levels for those officials and for career employees under statutory schedules, and provides that the President's recommendations on salaries be forwarded to the Congress in the budget to take effect 30 days later unless either house of Congress disapproves or other action is taken by enactment of a law.

WRONG WAY . .



Every year, small children lose their lives needlessly by suffocation because someone has left a plastic bag lying around. This is an avoidable accident, and parents should be alert to the danger.

RIGHT WAY . . .



This mother, aware of the danger of the plastic bag, is placing it in the garbage can where the toddler cannot reach it. Learn what to do in case of home accidents. Call your Red Cross for details of first aid courses.

Farmer Cooperative Business Hits \$15.7 Billion a Year Mark

"For the first time in history, dollar business volume of farmer cooperatives hit \$15.7 billion, a rise of 7 percent over the previous year, according to the annual survey just completed," David W. Angevine, administrator, Farmer Cooperative Service, said recently. "This is a rise of 61 percent over the volume 10 years earlier."

The survey showed total net business volume of \$15.7 billion for marketing, purchasing, and related-service cooperatives for the year July 1, 1965 to June 30, 1966. California, Minnesota, and Iowa were first, second, and third among the States in total net dollar volume of business.

Total gross business volume—the amount that adds business between cooperatives to the net figure—amounted to \$20.9 billion for the year.

Spotlight on People

Five women employees nominated by Secretary Freeman for the 1968 Federal Woman's Award have received certificates from Assistant Secretary *Joseph M. Robertson* in recognition of outstanding abilities and achievement records. They are *Margaret M. Hedge*, public information officer, Agricultural Research Service; *Isabelle M. Kelley*, director, Food Stamp Program, Consumer and Marketing Service; *Lucile Batts Latimer*, minerals management specialist, Forest Service; *Dr. Ruth M. Leverton*, scientist and research administrator, ARS; and *Beryle E. Stanton*, public information officer, Office of Management Services. *Dr. Ruth Benerito*, ARS, New Orleans, was a winner of the Federal Woman's Award.

* * * * *

Howard Bertsch, administrator, Farmers Home Administration, has received the African Methodist Episcopal Church's Richard Allen Award, named after the church founder. He was cited for "dedication to the improvement of human relations." The award is presented to persons who share Allen's "passion for freedom and selfless service."

* * * * *

Duane D. Miller of Sedona has been named a member of the Arizona Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee. He succeeds *Stanley B. Perkins* of Chino Valley.

* * * * *

Judge W. Fred Schaeffer of Springfield, Mo., has been named to the National Advisory Committee on Rural Areas Development. He is presiding judge of the Greene County government.

USDA HELP PAYS OFF

Edgar Helton's net worth was less than \$1,000 in 1963, but today, thanks to USDA help, it is more than \$25,000, reports Farmers Home Administration.

Helton, of Tennille, Ga., wanted to farm on his land in 1963 but he lacked resources. So he got an operating loan through the county FHA office in Sandersville. Then, after renting some adjacent land, he got a cotton allotment from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. He was then able to plant cotton on 90 acres and corn on more than 200 acres.

With a harvest of 1.5 bales per acre, Helton says his cotton "looks like white gold to me." The corn yielded 80 bushels



Away-From-Home Eating Places Serve \$22 Billion in Food Yearly

What does it cost Americans to eat out? The tab runs about \$22 billion a year.

Men eat out more than women. Especially at breakfast. The proportion drops at lunch, and declines even more at dinner—but even at dinner, men predominate in more than one out of five establishments.

These are some of the findings in an Economic Research Service survey of more than 6,000 representative 1966 food service operations.

The ERS survey gives data on types of food service offered, food costs, gross food sales, equipment, number of workers, customer characteristics, type of enterprise, and location of food service outlets.

There are 371,000 away-from-home places to eat in the United States.

ERS attributed \$18.5 billion to places such as restaurants, drug stores, and hotels. The rest was from facilities in hospitals, colleges, and other institutions.

Single copies of "The Food Service Industry: Its Structures and Characteristics, 1966," SB-416, are available on post card request from the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please use your ZIP code.

an acre last year, and he has set a goal of two bales or 100 bushels an acre for this year.

MIGRANTS GET NEW HOUSING

About 1,000 extra adults and children will go to Dimmitt, Tex., in the middle of the year. They will be migrant-worker families, but they won't have to live in crude shacks or barracks like they used to.

That's because a nonprofit group of Dimmitt businessmen and county farmers got together and built Castro County Agricultural Housing—a \$966,820 apartment development of 192 family units—just for the migrants.

The complex was financed through the Farmers Home Administration, which insured a private loan of \$570,000 for the association and supplemented the loan with a \$387,380 grant.

The complex, considered one of the Nation's largest farm labor rental housing projects, opened recently and was occupied by 100 migrant workers who arrived to begin hand-planting hundreds of acres of onions.

Castro County Agricultural Housing is made up of buildings which contain modern 144 one-bedroom and 48 two-bedroom apartments.

The project also houses an office of the Texas State Employment Service that will serve as a clearing house for area employment opportunities, and a full-time clinic of the Migrant Health Service.

Three times more
women have
Cancer Checkups
than men

fewer women
die of Cancer
than men

Get the
message?



AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

MARCH 28, 1968

Vol. XXVII No. 7

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APR 30 1968

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APRIL 11, 1968

Thi Muon with baby brother Van Ton

JOB CORPSMEN 'ADOPT'
NEEDY VIETNAMESE CHILD

Fifty Job Corpsmen from the Pine Ridge Civilian Conservation Center in Nebraska have been approved as sponsors of a needy Vietnamese child.

Last fall, the corpsmen were inspired by a television message by the Save the Children Federation. During a meeting at the center, they decided to adopt a child and to donate the necessary funds—\$15 a month—from their monthly earnings of \$26 each.

Recently, they were approved as sponsors of *Vo Thi Muon*, an 8-year-old child whose family had to flee their home village to escape being killed by the Viet Cong, leaving all belongings behind.

But now, with the money the corpsmen are sending through the federation, Thi Muon's mother can have her own small business and sell the rice crackers she and Thi Muon's older sisters make. This will provide more money for food for the family—her father, mother, two sisters, and two brothers—and for schooling for the children.

The center where Thi Muon's sponsors are trainees is operated by the Forest Service in cooperation with the Office of Economic Opportunity.

THIRTY-NINE COST CUTTING ACTIONS RESULT IN AWARDS

Department employees saved USDA millions of dollars last year. Their savings were so important, they recently were honored and awarded at a special ceremony.

As Secretary Freeman said, "cost reduction is not an isolated occurrence which we recognize once a year. It is a continuing effort by which we can measure our performance and our diligence."

"It is a program in which we all share responsibility—equally and individually."

Following is the list of those who initiated 39 separate cost reduction actions:

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

TORLIEF S. AASHEIM, CES; Bozeman, Mont.

For developing and implementing a reorganization of the Montana Cooperative Extension Service with savings of \$25,700.

DONAL V. ALLISON, SCS; Albuquerque, N. Mex.

For leadership in initiating better management techniques and improving the use of personnel and material resources to effect savings of \$19,600.

MILTON A. ARNOLD, FHA; Washington, D.C.

For coordinating the implementation of a plan to reorganize field staffs in FHA State and county offices with savings of \$532,000 the first year.

LEONARD BERG, FS; Washington, D.C.

For developing a program to standardize bidding and contracting systems in the Forest Service. Estimated Service-wide savings: \$906,300 annually.

BARBARA J. BLAKE, SCS; East Lansing, Mich.

For suggesting that a computer be programmed to reject erroneous information. This saved \$19,000 in the first application.

R. ROBERT BURNS, FS; Portland, Oreg.

For developing a better system of accounting for logs as they leave cutting areas. Quick visible spot checking

assures complete accountability. Estimated savings: \$62,600.

G. LEONARD DALSTED, FHA; Washington, D.C.

For developing new and simplified procedures and forms for making real estate loan appraisals. Savings are \$333,000 annually.

JOHN L. DEFEBAGH, OIG; Kansas City, Mo.

For suggesting the elimination of signed statements in food stamp investigations when only eligible items are involved in the transaction. Savings: \$19,000 annually.

MARION R. DEPPEN, CES; University Park, Pa.

For developing the application of automatic data processing to reporting systems and for significant reductions in film production, publishing, and printing costs. Total savings: \$57,900.

CLARENCE E. EDGINGTON, FS; Portland, Oreg.

For improving the process of selecting the best qualified personnel for firefighting positions. Savings: \$11,800 a year.

HAROLD W. FOGLE, ARS; Beltsville, Md.

For developing and adapting a uniform punch card system to record data in orchards for stone fruit progeny research; with first year savings of \$30,000.

ARNOLD V. GIESEMANN, C&MS; Arlington, Va.

For recommending a simplified method of inspecting swine viscera to detect diseases in the lymph nodes. Savings: \$110,400 annually.

WHITMORE S. GOODLETT, Jr., SCS; Big Spring, Tex.

For implementing an effective cost reduction and operations improvement program in his district. A highlight was an improved method of installing parallel terraces. Total savings from this and other innovations: \$91,300.

HENRY C. GOODPASTURE, ASCS; Kansas City, Mo.

For recommending transfer of a general ledger account and subsidiary

detail to the ASCS Kansas City Data Processing Center and for developing improved machine methods for a stop-payment procedure. Annual savings: \$22,000.

VERNON L. HARNESS, FAS; Washington, D.C.

For using automatic data processing analysis to develop statistical models for forecasting foreign cotton production and consumption. Savings in fiscal year 1968: \$28,800.

PAUL F. JONES, REA; Washington, D.C.

For suggesting that the Power Procurement Branch be merged into the Power Planning Staff to form a more efficient single organization. Savings: \$19,600.

BERNARD LaSALLE, ARS; Hyattsville, Md.

For designing a single format to replace 57 different reports of test results from manufacturers of veterinary biologics—and for other major improvements in the data gathering and licensing process. Savings are \$37,500 annually.

RAYMOND P. LASCHOB, FS; Ogden, Utah

For conceiving and implementing a less costly method of updating and revising transportation planning maps. This special photographic process permits changing only portions of a map and eliminates human errors. First year savings are \$12,800.

DALE R. LEMKE, ARS; Brookings, S. Dak.

For coordinating efforts with the South Dakota State University and the municipality of Sunnyview to reduce the cost of installing sewage lines for the ARS Research Laboratory. Savings: \$37,100.

FERNANDO LOPEZ, ARS; Mexico City, Mexico.

For developing a pelletized lure to replace a liquid mixture for attracting Mexican fruit flies. Time saved in servicing traps, mixing, and other work amounted to \$21,200.

MERLE S. LOWDEN, FS; Washington, D.C.

For directing major management improvements which resulted in a more effective organization of men and resources for wild land fire control. These include the use of interregional aerial firefighting crews, intensified training programs, development of new fire retardants and other innovations. Savings: \$10,700,000.

DOMINICK J. MILANO, ARS; Beltsville, Md.

For initiating the use of closed-circuit television to locate faults in sewer lines scheduled for replacement at the



BIG PET COMES TO D.C.—In fact, it's a 1,050-pound steer named Big Red, who won the annual National Western Stock Show last January at Denver and brought a price of \$10,867. The Denver Hilton Hotel bought Big Red and turned him over to Secretary Freeman, center, who turned him over to Junior Village, a public home for children in the Washington, D.C., area. The steer will be kept at the Oxon Hill Children's Farm, operated by the Department of the Interior's National Park Service, so children will be able to see him. At left, is Randy Helm of Holbrook, Nebr., who bought Big Red 20 months ago for \$46, when the steer was a day old. Carl Coleman of Junior Village, who accepted Big Red, is third from left. The children are from the home.

Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md. Initial savings are: \$30,000.
CECIL W. ROSE, FHA; Washington, D.C.

For promoting the use of waste stabilization lagoons, wherever feasible, instead of mechanical treatment plants for sewage disposal in rural communities. Savings: \$3,000,000.

GEORGE E. WANAMAKER, FAS; Washington, D.C.

For increasing the use of large containers for overseas shipments of soybean oil under Public Law 480 contracts, thereby realizing savings of \$506,100 in fiscal year 1968.

DONALD N. WILSON, C&MS; Washington, D.C.

For abolishing the market news leased wire relay station at Kansas City, Mo., and combining traffic in duplicate circuits; resulting in savings of \$31,000 annually.

DUAL AWARDS

RICHARD P. BARTLETT, Jr. and IRWIN FRIED, C&MS; Washington, D.C.

For use of mathematical and statistical techniques in designing sampling and other procedures for the inspection of processed meats, resulting in improved control. Savings: \$103,000.

KENNETH McALLISTER and M. DUMAS, ERS; Washington, D.C.

For developing a superior management system for data input and consolidating job orders to maximize computer use. Estimated savings: \$31,500.

JACK D. PRITCHETT and FEDERICO G. MORALES, SCS; Fayetteville, Ark.

For suggesting a method to separate rock fraction from clay material in large soil samples taken for density determinations. Savings: \$15,500 annually.

WALTER A. STROUD and PATRICK M. CALLAHAN, ASCS; Washington, D.C.

For improving contract procedures for Public Law 480 and World Food Program ocean shipments. Savings: \$886,900 per year.

QUENTIN M. WEST and DONALD CHRISLER, ERS; Washington, D.C.

For improving techniques in the publication of "The World Agricultural Situation," and reducing the number of authors required. Savings: \$25,000 annually.

JAMES M. WESTBY and MARY R. KEISLING, FHA; Washington, D.C.

For revising procedures for the consideration of promotions among county office personnel. This eliminates unnecessary paperwork and assures that merit promotion principles are protected. Savings: \$31,000 annually.

UNIT AWARDS

C&MS CONSUMER PROTECTION SAFETY TEAM, C&MS; Washington, D.C.

For providing effective and imaginative leadership in the development of an improved accident prevention program in the consumer protection activities of C&MS. Reductions in lost time due to injury saved \$195,100 in fiscal year 1967.

COMMITTEE ON TELEPHONE SYSTEM DESIGN STANDARDS, REA; Washington, D.C.

For researching the use of fine gauge cable and electronic devices (solid state) in the design of telephone systems. REA borrowers fund requirements were reduced \$3,300,000 in 1967.

INDIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE GROUP, CES; Lafayette, Ind.

For significant improvements in the operation of 92 county offices, reducing costs through extensive use of excess property and work-study student labor, establishing a standard filing system and other economies. Total savings: \$189,000.

METHODS DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY CHEMISTRY GROUP, C&MS; Beltsville, Md.

For introducing a revised procedure, which cuts field laboratory time in half, for the analysis of meat samples for chlorinated hydrocarbon residues. Annual savings: \$27,600.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, INVESTIGATIONS GROUP, OIG; Washington, D.C.

For introducing a simplified and streamlined investigation procedure and reporting system for the Food Stamp Program, with savings of \$111,000 annually.

SPECIAL INTERAGENCY AWARD

TASK FORCE TO REVIEW USDA PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS IN MEXICO

For conducting an on-site survey which led to improvements in USDA program operations in Mexico. Annual savings are in excess of \$67,000.

SPECIAL INTER-DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

STORED-PRODUCT INSECTS RESEARCH GROUP, ARS; Savannah, Ga.

For developing a special treatment which assures protection to stored delicate Air Force instruments by eliminating carpet beetle damage in animal-hair packing material. Estimated initial savings to the Defense Department are \$300,000.

CHARLES E. PHILLIPS, BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING, Treas-



A trained animal act? No, it's Smokey Bear congratulating Raymond Hower after giving him a Cub Scout award. Smokey was a surprise visitor at an annual Blue and Gold Dinner for Cub Scout Pack 991, Annandale, Va. He handed out the annual awards and emphasized his favorite theme, fire prevention.

C&MS to Take Part in New Emergency Aid Program

The Consumer and Marketing Service plans to take part in a new emergency food and medical aid program involving a coordinated effort by C&MS, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The program is an outgrowth of last year's Economic Opportunity Act amendment providing for expanded funds for OEO this year and next.

C&MS said it will receive about \$2.2 million from OEO to conduct special food assistance projects in three areas:

—In the 250 lowest income counties, any person who is hungry or is in danger of being hungry because he lacks adequate income to buy food, will be eligible for financial assistance through local community action agencies, or welfare agencies if CAA's do not exist.

—On a temporary basis, C&MS will provide funds to cover administrative costs of the Food Stamp or Commodity Distribution program in select counties not now able to conduct programs because local or State funds are not now available.

—In selected counties, free school lunches will be provided for children from families eligible for or participating in the Food Stamp or Commodity Distribution program, or who have been certified as "needy" by certain government or private agencies.

ury Department, Washington, D.C.

For recommending that the size of food stamp coupons be reduced to al-

Secretary, Mrs. Freeman Tour 3 States in New England Area

Secretary and Mrs. Freeman recently took a 3-day New England tour including stops in Massachusetts, Maine, and Vermont to review problems and potentials of the region, which is making plans for an expected 30 percent population increase by 1985.

Highlight of the tour was a joint conference at Burlington, Vt., with Governors *Kenneth Curtis* of Maine, *John King* of New Hampshire, and *Philip Hoff* of Vermont. The Secretary also met with the New England Regional Commission; State Technical Action Panels of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts; and various county and community development groups.

Governor Hoff and Forest Supervisor *John E. Alcock* conducted a tour of the Green Mountain National Forest. The group watched a "Gelandesprung" demonstration at Glen Ellen Ski Area. A Gelandesprung is a ski stunt in which the skier attempts to jump over an "unexpected" obstacle, such as a log or crevasse.

Also during the 3-day trip, *Mrs. Freeman* and *Mrs. Hoff* toured a hockey stick factory at Richford, Vt., and saw a "sugar bush" on the *Donald Mitchell* farm at Essex, Vt., where they toured a joint Forest Service-University of Vermont research project.

A sugar bush is a grove of maple trees from which sap is drawn for syrup or sugar. At the farm, they saw equipment used to gather, map, and measure sugar content, and were told of the project's efforts to select and breed maple trees with a maximum quantity and quality of sugar sap.

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for May include: British Isles; Texas Hemisfair; Niagara Falls; Bermuda holiday; Delta Queen cruise on Mississippi River; Skipjack on Chesapeake Bay; Arboretum-Sherwood Gardens; Winterthur-Longwood Gardens; peaks of Otter-Boar's Head Inn-Monticello; a day in Baltimore, Md.; Maryland house and gardens.

For information about club tours, or membership applications: *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, phone DU 8-5611.

low printing of 24 rather than 21 per sheet. Annual savings to USDA: \$110,000.

New 'Weapon' Added to Fight Against Malnutrition in World

People the world over die of malnutrition—even though they eat enough.

They die because the food they eat does not contain the nutrients needed to keep them alive.

To help solve this problem, USDA scientists have developed a new food formula of corn, soybeans, and milk. It's called CSM.

Recently, almost 400 million pounds of this food blend was shipped from the United States to more than 90 developing countries.

Three and a half ounces of CSM, when made into a gruel or porridge, will supply a child with one-third to one-half, or even more, of the necessary daily nutrients. It consists of processed cornmeal (68 percent), soybean flour (25 percent), nonfat dry milk (5 percent), and minerals and vitamins (2 percent). The blend costs about 7.5 cents a pound—packaged and delivered to ocean ports.

Lack of the nutrients in CSM can harm a child's body and mind. Officials estimate the death rate for children less than 5 years old is about 40 times higher for undernourished children than for well-fed ones. The undernourished children who survive past age 5 can look forward to an average life span of 30 years with a lowered capacity to learn, and without the energy to help themselves.

CSM was developed by scientists of the Agricultural Research Service, co-operating with the Agency for International Development and the National Institutes of Health.

Spotlight on People

Dr. Clifford W. Hesseltine has been appointed chief of the Fermentation Laboratory, Northern Regional Research Laboratory, Peoria, Ill. He had been curator of the Agricultural Research Service culture collection at the Peoria unit since 1953. The collection is part of the Fermentation Laboratory.

William O. Booth, Soil Conservation Service work unit conservationist, has received an award as "outstanding young man" of Carroll County, Md. He was given a plaque "for outstanding community service through loyal, faithful, and unselfish efforts resulting in lasting contributions to community and Nation."



Son of Kenya's President Observing U.S. Agriculture

Peter M. J. Kenyatta, son of President Jomo Kenyatta, is one of four men and four women from Kenya taking part in an Agricultural Leaders Observation in the United States, according to Farmers Home Administration.

The 13-week course includes visits to the Department's Federal Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Farmer Cooperative Service, FHA, Farm Credit Administration, Rural Electrification Administration, and International Agricultural Development Service.

The course is sponsored by the Agency for International Development, in cooperation with USDA, universities, colleges, and other organizations. Participants will visit the agencies, universities, colleges, and organizations in the District of Columbia, Ohio, Kentucky, Nebraska, and Maryland.

One of the travel stops will be May 13-15 at the FHA county office in Williamstown, Ky.

Kenyatta operates a 450-acre farm near Nairobi. He grazes 60 graded milking cows and 40 heifers on 300 acres and grows fruits, vegetables, and maize on 150 acres.

The eight participants are primarily interested in improving farm production techniques, preparation of products for market, handling and transportation to market, and marketing methods.

Meat Packers and Processors' Conference Set for Pennsylvania

Specialists from the meat industry and government and academic scientists will participate in an annual Meat Packers and Processors' Conference April 16-17 at Fort Washington, Pa.

The conference is designed to keep meat packers and processors aware of the latest developments in their industry. The sessions will feature talks on centralized packaging, portion control, management and marketing, and laboratory analysis and inspection of meats.

A highlight of the meeting will be a banquet on April 16, to be addressed by *Samuel B. Blaskey*, associate director, Academy of Food Marketing, St. Joseph's College, Philadelphia. The final sessions will be at the Department's Eastern Utilization Research and Development Division in nearby Wyndmoor, Pa., where the conferees will tour the Meat Laboratory.

The conference is sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Services of Pennsylvania State University and of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey; the Montgomery County Agricultural Extension Association; and the Department.

THAT IS THE QUESTION

To report or not to report? That is the question. And an auction market in Torrington, Wyo., recently answered it.

Since a Consumer and Marketing Service market news office opened in Nov. 1967 in Torrington, its news has been so well received the Torrington Commission Co., the auction market, has decided *not to report* to local media—and has asked newspapers and national trade journals to carry the C&MS reports instead of ones previously issued by the market.

The market news office also furnishes reports on livestock sales—prices, supply, and demand—at a nearby Scottsbluff, Nebr., auction, and on direct marketing of cattle in the North Platte Valley of both States.

Secretary Freeman has called for continued cooperative industry-Government merchandising to encourage consumption of unusually heavy supplies of turkeys. He said supplies of turkeys "will make it possible to offer consumers this highly nutritious and appetizing food at economical prices."

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 11, 1968

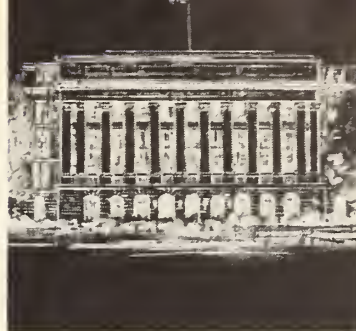
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVII NO. 9
APRIL 25, 1968

USDA to Intensify Programs Into Total Systems Approach

The Department will intensify its research, regulation, education, and action programs into a total systems approach to carry out its goal of enhancing the quality of the environment. Secretary Freeman wrote recently.

In a major policy statement, Secretary's Memorandum No. 1631, he said USDA will "emphasize and give priority to those opportunities that contribute most to the improvement of the quality of the environment of the American people . . ."

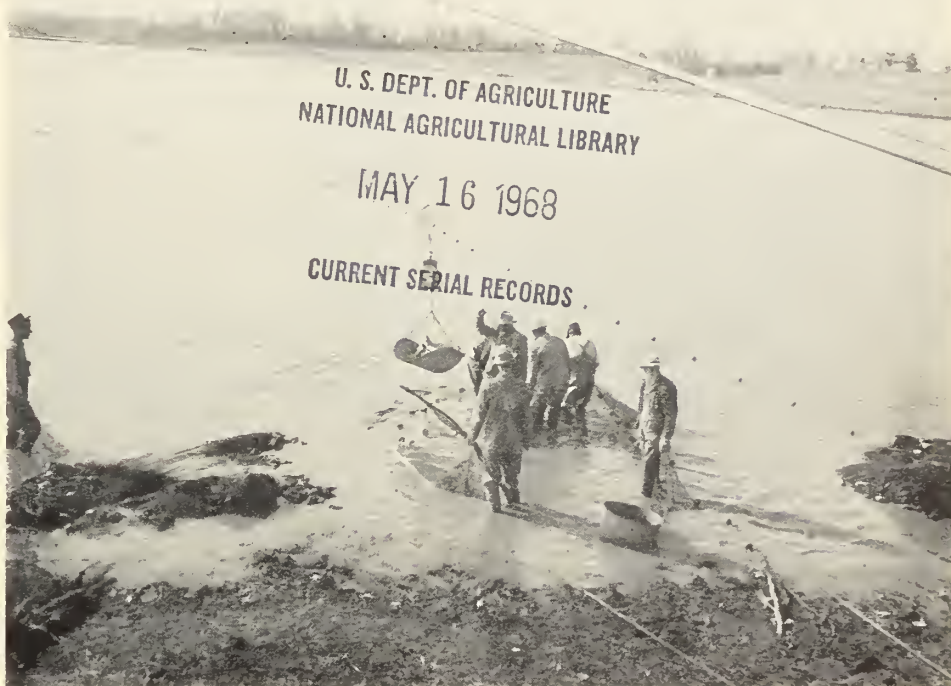
Following is the text of that memorandum:

BASIC CONSIDERATIONS. Environment describes the living conditions for people. Other forms of life that share the earth are a part of that environment. Enhancing the quality of man's environment in harmony with the productive use of our physical, biological, social, and economic resources is of direct concern to and is a major responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Department, in cooperation with other agencies, is committed to improving, protecting, and restoring environmental values in the face of unprecedented demands being made on these values by modern society. Degradation of the environment, either rural or urban, can harm man, and other animal and plant life.

RURAL CHALLENGE. Rural resources, for which the Department has the major responsibility, yield food, feed, fiber, forest products, and water for the Nation. They are basic to increasing and maintaining the incomes of farm and other rural people. Rural areas provide the locale of outdoor recreation and natural beauty for the enjoyment of everyone, and they offer opportunities for the growth of Communities of Tomorrow where people may live, work, and play in a healthy, attractive, prosperous, and vigorous environment.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Department shall conduct its activities in



FISH BEING TAKEN FROM ARKANSAS LAKE FOR PROCESSING (SEE 'FISH FARMING,' PAGE 2)

a manner that enhances the quality of our total environment. To carry out this over-all commitment, the Department will intensify research, regulation, education, and action programs into a total systems approach to carry out environmental objectives. It will emphasize and give priority to those opportunities that contribute most to the improvement of the quality of the environment of the American people such as:

1. *Reduction of the damages and losses from pollution* to soil, water, and air by agricultural chemicals, crop, livestock, and forestry wastes, sediment, sewage, and mining operations. The Department will continue to work with other Federal, State, and local agencies to minimize air and water pollution from urban and industrial sources.

2. *Revitalizing rural communities* through effective, balanced use of human talents and natural and economic resources to achieve more jobs, with more income for more people. The goal is to

build Communities of Tomorrow that can reverse the present trend toward metropolitan congestion and help attain a rural-urban balance in which man can live in harmony with his environment.

3. *Maintaining and improving the quality of rural living* as an attractive, healthful place to live, through increased assistance providing equally to all people the services and amenities of contemporary life—such as housing, water supply, waste disposal, power, communication, transportation, and education.

4. *Expanding outdoor recreation* to help meet the public demand, and to create jobs and strengthen the economy of the countryside. The Department will expand recreational facilities in the National Forests and provide financial, technical, and educational assistance to rural communities, farmers, and others to establish or enlarge such facilities for public use.

5. *Enhancing natural beauty* through
(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

landscaping, screening of residential and industrial developments, rehabilitation of surface-mined lands, protection of soil and plants, and conservation activities generally.

6. *Protecting public health* in both rural and urban areas by controlling pests that ravage food crops and livestock, and transmit human diseases, guarding the wholesomeness and quality of food products against contamination, reducing pollution of soil, water, and air, and providing and improving sanitation and waste disposal systems in rural areas.

COMMUNITY OF INTEREST. Improving the total environment of rural and urban people depends upon the sustained cooperation of all segments of society. Building upon its historic working relationships, the Department shall continue to encourage and support State and local governments, conservation and other districts, educational institutions, private organizations, and farmers, ranchers, and landholders in the multiple use of natural and human resources for the benefit of everyone. The Department will cooperate fully with other Federal agencies engaged in environmental activities.

To enhance the quality of our total environment, in accordance with the objectives outlined above, the Department will propose and implement, as needed, new policies and programs put forward in the interest of a healthy, attractive, prosperous, and vigorous environment for all Americans.

Special Consideration Urged For Veterans of Vietnam

Secretary Freeman has asked agency heads "and all employees at every level . . . particularly those concerned with the hiring process" to give Vietnam veterans "personalized assistance and information concerning the benefits available to them, and special consideration for employment in this Department."

"These young Americans," he said in a recent memorandum, "have suffered a crucial disruption to their personal lives. Many of them have not completed education or training adequate to prepare them for the future job demands of civilian employment. They deserve our attention."

The Secretary pointed out that this new program was announced by President Johnson in his January 30 message to Congress when he said:

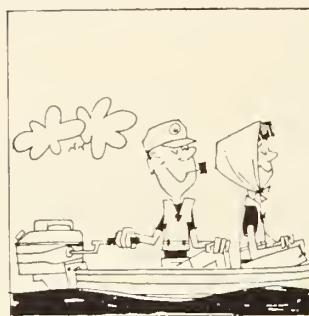
"Our objective is to make sure that every serviceman who returns to civilian

WRONG WAY . .



This skipper is risking all his passengers' lives by overloading his boat. A sudden wave or hitting an underwater object could swamp his boat easily. He may want to take the whole family out for boating fun, but if he knows his water safety rules, he will never load his boat in this fashion.

RIGHT WAY . . .



Much more of this boat is riding above the water. The skipper knows the safe number of people to carry. Probably he learned it in a Red Cross, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, or U.S. Power Squadron small craft course. Call your Red Cross and take a course to learn safe boating.

Chemist Advising Guatemalans

Glenn G. Watters, a USDA research chemist, has begun a 6-month tour of duty in Guatemala as a food-processing advisor for the Agency for International Development.

He is a fruit processing specialist at the Agricultural Research Service's Western Regional Research Laboratory, Albany, Calif.

life today and in the months ahead—no matter where he lives, what background he might have come from, what his hopes and ambitions are—will have the education he wants, the training he needs, and the opportunities for the job he is best suited for."

Fish Farming Adds Jobs, Income

Fish farming is growing as a rural industry, reeling in jobs and income for several Southeastern States—and USDA is helping.

The Department provides technical and financial aid to farmers who want to try fish farming for good land use and added income. USDA also works with local groups and other Federal and State agencies to improve production, harvesting, and processing methods to find new markets for the fish products.

In the Southeast Delta Resource Conservation and Development Project, being carried out with USDA help, a catfish processing plant is dressing 60,000 pounds of fish a week, and adding almost \$1.4 million a year to the area economy. A larger plant is planned for the area. Besides dressing fish, it will make fish meal and feed meal. A Federal loan for \$740,000 has been approved for constructing the plant. Local sponsors will put up the rest of the \$900,000 cost.

Soil Conservation Service says about 6,000 acres of farm ponds are producing catfish in Mississippi. This includes 2,420 acres diverted from other land uses since September 1966.

In Arkansas, about 4,000 acres of ponds are in catfish production. And catfish are being fed in about 2,000 farm ponds and raised in about 22,000 acres of irrigated reservoirs, alone or with other fish. A fish processing plant is under construction near Pine Bluff, backed by small-business loans of \$15,000 for working capital and \$52,000 for buildings, machinery, and equipment.

Schnittker Address Planned For Science Exhibit Opening

Under Secretary John A. Schnittker will be the main speaker at the opening ceremony for a science-exhibit display May 3 in the Patio of USDA's Administration Building in Washington, D.C.

The Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture (OPEDA) has chosen 54 exhibits from six area school science fairs. Student exhibitors, their parents, science teachers, and principals will be guests of OPEDA and USDA for the day. The ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the exhibits will be on display until 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. John A. Baker, wife of the assistant secretary, will address the guests at a luncheon. The guests will tour the Agricultural Research Center at Beltsville, Md., where they will see research in ornamentals, phyto-engineering and other phases of crop production, and poultry and livestock research.

Regional TAP's Established To Aid Rural Development

The Department recently took a major step toward its goal of developing rural areas when it set up four Regional Technical Action Panels.

In announcing establishment of the regional panels, Secretary Freeman said "this is another step in a program now successfully operating at State and county levels under which Technical Action Panels coordinate USDA's field operations and perfect working relationships with other organizations to better serve rural citizens."

The new panels will work with multi-State citizens groups, and will cooperate with and provide information to regional and State development commissions. They will make recommendations, about application of USDA programs to regional problems, to rural areas development boards and to the Federal co-chairmen of regional commissions.

The new panels were set up in four economic development regions designated by the Secretary of Commerce. They are New England, the Ozarks (Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas), the Coastal Plains (South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia), and the Four Corners (New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and Utah). A similar panel already is functioning in the Upper Great Lakes Development Region.

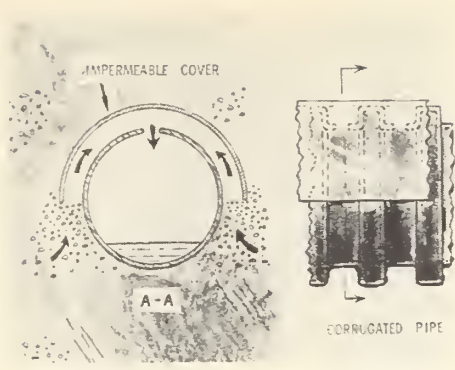
Farmers Home Administration will provide chairmen for the panels. Heads of State offices of Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Forest Service, and Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service will serve on the panels. The Governor of each State and the Federal co-chairmen of each economic development region have been invited to designate representatives.

FS Book Printed in Spanish

The first Forest Service tree identification book to be translated into Spanish has been published by the University of Puerto Rico.

"Common Trees of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands" describes in nontechnical terms about 250 native and introduced species of the two areas. Descriptions include such characteristics as size, appearance, leaves, flowers, fruit, wood, uses, and distribution.

Since most of the trees are widely distributed, the 827-page book will be a useful reference for large areas of tropical America. It was written by *Dr. Elbert L. Little* and *Dr. Frank H. Wadsworth* and translated by *Jose Marrero*, all of the Forest Service.



He Spends His Leave Working

Sheldon Ward, New England State Director, Farmers Home Administration, recently spent 2 weeks of annual leave as a member of an agricultural study team in South America.

Ward was accompanied by four University of Maine agricultural specialists to Maine's "sister state," Rio Grande do Norte in Brazil.

The team was selecting a site for a pilot project in rural community development. FHA says that since 70 percent of the state's population depends on agriculture for its living, rural advancements are essential to Rio Grande do Norte's future.

Ward was the credit specialist on the team. His colleagues specialize in animal science, agronomy, extension, and public services.

U.S., Canada Test 'Beta' Way To Check Eggshell Strength

How can you tell a tough eggshell from a fragile one? That's one thing USDA and Canadian researchers have joined together to find out.

There is an old method, but the researchers are trying to find the most reliable and efficient way.

About 50 million dozen broken eggs a year take a big chunk out of profits to U.S. producers, packers, and marketers—and Canada has a similar problem.

The old method determines a shell's strength by the egg's ability to withstand force.

So researchers are comparing this method with a new one—using a "beta backscatter gage." That's a device, developed by USDA and the Atomic Energy Commission, that fires harmless beta energy at an egg. Researchers count the energy that bounces back. A high count means the shell is tough; low count means it is fragile.

The researchers are studying the matter at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., and at the Canada Experimental Farm, Ottawa, with meetings for studies and discussions.

New Device May Help Solve Clogging of Subsurface Drains

A new device developed by the Department might put an end to clogging of the drain tiles farmers put under the ground.

Subsurface drainage is increasing the productive capacity and value of more than 300,000 acres of wet, soggy, and potentially salty U.S. cropland each year. In irrigated farming areas such as the arid Southwest, drain tiles are necessary to remove excess irrigation water and to keep salt from building up in the soil. In other areas, such as the Corn Belt, drain tiles help remove excess water that would inhibit crop growth.

Many drains work well enough in cohesive soils, but in noncohesive soils such as silts and very fine sands sediment can clog drains and cut down their effectiveness.

To help solve this problem, a cover that fits over the top of drain tiles was developed by research agricultural engineers *L. S. Willardson*, *J. L. Fouss*, and *R. C. Reeve*, and soil scientist *N. R. Fausey*, of the Agricultural Research Service. The cover uses the pull of gravity to separate the sand from the water. If installed properly, the device will not lose its effectiveness with time. Initial tests were at Columbus, Ohio, in the Corn Belt where more than 60 percent of agricultural drainage systems are found.

Most conventional drain tile is smooth, and for this tile the scientists used a cover of semi-rigid corrugated plastic. On corrugated tile, a smooth plastic cover was used, taking advantage of the tile's ribbed surface.

When the cover rests on the drain tile, the underside creates evenly spaced channels leading up the sides to the top of the tile where holes have been made. Drainage water percolating down through the soil must flow past the top of the tile, then flow upward under the cover and through the channels to get into the holes on top of the drain tile. When the water flows upward, soil particles are held in place by gravity and are prevented from entering the tile.

But before drain tiles using the new cover can be installed in other areas, specialists plan to make sure they will operate properly in the other areas. Like conventional drain systems, efficient operation will be more difficult to attain in silts and very fine sands.

North Carolina, Washington, and Utah have signed cooperative agreements with the Department to set up joint Federal-State meat inspection programs under the Talmadge-Aiken Act.

AWARDS CEREMONY GUEST WRITES OF DAY AT USDA

Anna-Marie LaSalle spent a day at USDA recently, and she was so impressed she wrote a resume of what she saw and heard and sent it to her friends in Canada and the United States.

Mrs. LaSalle is the wife of Dr. Bernard LaSalle, Agricultural Research Service, who received a cost reduction award "for designing a single format to replace 57 different reports of test results from manufacturers of veterinary biologics—and for other major improvements in the data gathering and licensing process," saving \$37,500 a year.

The day Mrs. LaSalle came to the Department in Washington was the day her husband, and many others, received their awards during a special ceremony attended by President Johnson. She was impressed by the sights and sounds, but even more by the idea behind the ceremony—by the fact that, as she put it, each of the people honored was "only one of many deserving civil servants and faithful employees of the United States Department of Agriculture" who have contributed to the economy of the Nation.

The LaSalles are natives of Canada and have many friends there. Since coming to the United States in 1952, they have made friends at the various locations where Dr. LaSalle has worked. Mrs. LaSalle sent her resume to about 30 acquaintances in Canada and 10 in the United States. The addresses included Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and that of a man in Hull, Quebec, who was the private secretary to former Prime Minister McKenzie King.

Mrs. LaSalle ended her resume by writing: "I have experienced once more a distinctive pleasure in being part of an audience of people dedicated to inspired work, creation and invention, to witness the genial contributions of human greatness, and to observe that integrity is a winner."

ACP HELPS MILLION FARMERS

A million farmers and ranchers received help under the 1967 Agricultural Conservation Program.

The goal was to maintain the productive capacity of farmland. To do this, the farmers and ranchers got help—from Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service—with soil, water, woodland, and wildlife conservation measures on 50 million acres.



Industry, Government Seeking Ways to Improve Water Quality

The Department has joined an industry-government task force which is looking for ways to control excessive fertilization of algae and other aquatic plants.

The excessive fertilization, a process called eutrophication, is caused by nutrients in water—mainly phosphates but also nitrates.

Phosphates are commonly found in municipal sewage, human waste, agricultural fertilizers, detergents, and industrial discharges.

The Department says it is generally agreed that the likelihood of finding a practical solution to eutrophication is greatest if an overall approach to the problem is pursued, instead of limiting the investigation solely to phosphates and their possible replacement. While the study of phosphate replacement is considered important, the entire process of eutrophication—all contributing factors and their control—is being studied.

Secretary Freeman said USDA is "glad to join with representatives of industry and the Department of the Interior on this important water resource matter. We have major responsibilities and opportunities in connection with the Nation's water resources and welcome the request to contribute to a better understanding of the problems and the need for action and research programs to improve the quality of water."

Spotlight on People

Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff has been named to receive one of 10 Career Service Awards given by the National Civil Service League. Each of the 10 outstanding career Civil Service employees will receive \$1,000 and other honors. The league says its awards program "honors the unsung heroes of the Federal service, inspires better performance by their colleagues, and encourages talented young people to make their careers in Government."

Dr. John C. Cowan of the Northern Utilization Research Laboratory, Peoria, Ill., has been elected president of the American Oil Chemists' Society. He is chief of oilseeds studies in the Agricultural Research Service laboratory.

Three major staff assignment changes at the Agricultural Research Service Soil and Water Conservation Research Division, Beltsville, Md.: Dr. Jesse Lunin is chief soil chemist, succeeding Dr. Jan van Schilfgaarde; Dr. Donald J. Brakensiek is chief engineer, succeeding L. L. Kelly; and Dr. Harold L. Barrows is chief, Northeast Branch, succeeding Dr. Lunin.

CITRUS GROWER TO HEAD U.S. FARM CREDIT BOARD

Lorin T. Bice, a citrus grower, of Haines City, Fla., has been elected chairman of the Federal Farm Credit Board.

David G. Gault of Manor, Tex., was elected vice chairman of the board, and Harold T. Mason of Alexandria, Va., deputy governor of the Farm Credit Administration, was re-elected secretary.

The 13-member board sets the policies nationally for the cooperative Farm Credit System, which is supervised by the FCA, an independent agency with headquarters in the Department's South Building in Washington, D.C.

Bice is a director of the West Coast Growers Cooperative of Dade City, Fla., and a former member of the Farm Credit Board of Columbia, S.C., and the Central Bank for Cooperatives, Washington, D.C.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's May list. Featured are: eggs. Other plentiful include milk and dairy products, potatoes, and turkeys.

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVII NO. 10
MAY 23, 1968

1967-68 Winners of Major Non-USDA Awards

The following Department employees won major non-USDA awards for 1967-68:

DR. MARTIN E. ABEL, deputy assistant secretary, International Affairs—Selected by District of Columbia Junior Chamber of Commerce as one of the 10 outstanding young men in the Federal Government to win the 1968 Arthur S. Flemming Award.

DR. RUTH R. BENERITO, research chemist, Agricultural Research Service, New Orleans, La.—Presented the 1968 Federal Woman's Award which gives special recognition to women who have made outstanding contributions to the efficiency and quality of the career service of the Federal Government. Also recognized as "Civil Servant of the Year" by the Federal Executive Association, New Orleans.

EDWARD P. CLIFF, chief, Forest Service—Winner of the 1968 Career Service Award sponsored by the National Civil Service League for the purpose of strengthening the public service by bringing national recognition to significant careers in the Federal service.

BENJAMIN GOLDBERG, systems accountant, Consumer and Marketing Service—Recipient of the 1967 Federal Government Accountants' Association Award for outstanding achievement in the improvement of financial management in the Federal service.

RALPH G. McINTYRE, chief, Property and Supply Management Division, Office of Plant and Operations—Chosen by the American Management Society to receive the 1967 Paperwork Management Award given to the five most exceptional Government managers who reduced paperwork and lowered costs in operations through effective management of paperwork.

DONALD A. WILLIAMS, administrator, Soil Conservation Service—Winner of the 1967 Rockefeller Public Service Award for distinguished public service in the field of administration. This award is administered by Princeton University.

USDA . . .

A Community of Service For the Communities of Man

"We are moving purposefully toward a rural America where space is abundant and living is good. We are on the way to making this rural America and its "Communities of Tomorrow" attractive economically and attractive for their natural beauty, clean environment, and unharried living . . .

"You are helping to bring about this 'second America.' As employees of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, you are on this frontier of the future. You are helping citizens to build a countryside dotted by new towns and growing communities where the benefits of community life are enhanced by the rich beauty of the land from which family farmers receive incomes commensurate with their investments and contributions to America's abundance. You are helping to build communities with their own schools and factories, their own hospitals and health services, their own outdoor recreation.

"A few years ago, many so-called experts were saying the migration of people from countryside to city was inevitable.

"But Census figures now show that this migration is being slowed. In the 1950's, nonmetropolitan areas lost an average of nearly 600,000 people a year to metropolitan areas. From 1960 through 1965, the loss averaged only about 118,000 a year . . .

"The new rural America is but one of our many goals. We seek to close the nutrition gap for the people of America. We seek to push forward scientific and technological progress in agriculture until the war on hunger is won. We seek to take new research knowledge faster and more effectively to all people who can use it. We seek to make the services of all Federal agencies more readily available to rural people . . ."

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

The 22d Annual Honor Awards Ceremony was held Tuesday, May 14 in Washington, D.C.

Secretary Freemon presented Distinguished Service Awards to seven persons and one group of employees, and Superior Service Awards to 67 persons and 12 USDA units. Of the Superior Service Award winners, 25 are headquartered in the Washington, D.C., area, and 42 are based in 26 States and 2 foreign countries . . .

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Program Administration

ROLAND F. BALLOU, ASCS; Washington, D.C.—For distinction in the management and merchandising of Government-owned commodities, in a manner which reduces public cost, insures security reserves, meets U.S. export goals and world obligations, with a minimum of adverse effect on American agriculture, allied industries, or domestic and world markets.

MELVIN H. HEARN, FHA; Raleigh, N.C.—For singular achievement in furthering rural areas development and community relations in North Carolina through effective administration of USDA credit, technical assistance, and outreach programs.

DR. LAURENCE I. HEWES, Jr., RCDS; Washington, D.C.—For brilliant service and leadership in the field of natural resources resulting in enhancement and understanding of the rural society, nationally and internationally.

CALVIN TAYLOR, ASCS; Phoenix, Ariz.—For notable leadership and judgment in administering agency programs to provide maximum assistance to low-income Indian farmers, and for personal dedication to advancing the economic betterment of the rural community.

HOWARD L. WORTHINGTON, FAS; Washington, D.C.—For significantly expanding U.S. agricultural trade opportunities through major contributions to the positive shape and direction of the agricultural phases of the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations.

CALVIN L. BEALE, *ERS; Washington, D.C.*—For distinctive service to the Department and to the Nation in the interpretation of demographic trends specifically related to agriculture, the rural population, and to the implications of growth patterns.

WILSON A. REEVES, *ARS; New Orleans, La.*—For invaluable service to the profession of chemistry through his development of the theory and practice of improving the properties of cotton textiles by chemical modification and additive finishing.

Group Achievement

GEORGE COUNTY TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL; *Lucedale, Miss.*—For providing unusually effective service in assisting rural low-income people and communities to identify problems and locate and secure assistance to alleviate them.

SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARDS

Program Administration

RADFORD R. ALLEN, *FHA; Elizabethtown, N.C.*—For meritorious service in providing credit and management advice to a record number of rural residents in Bladen County and for unusual initiative in assisting the rural poor of minority races.

WALLACE L. ANDERSON, *SCS; Syracuse, N.Y.*—For unusual vision and challenging leadership in broadening a natural resource conservation and development program to provide the greatest possible benefits for the greatest possible number of people in New York State.

BARTHY L. BEACH, *FHA; Syracuse, N.Y.*—For eminent leadership in directing programs to fight poverty in rural New York and for effectively demonstrating through the Mid-Hudson pilot project the impact of a concerted rural development effort.

FRANK J. BRECHENSER, *OIG; Washington, D.C.*—For managerial and professional skill in creating maximum efficiency and readiness in investigation operations which enhanced the reputation of the Office of the Inspector General.

RONALD C. CALLANDER, *CEA; Washington, D.C.*—For exemplary leadership in directing the supervision of futures trading to improve and protect the vital pricing and hedging services of the Nation's regulated commodity exchanges.

BERNICE D. CANATA, *C&MS; San Francisco, Calif.*—For exceptional initiative and effective leadership in bringing the snack food program to remote Alaskan schools, in distributing emer-

gency food supplies, and in directing the donated foods program in the 11 Western States.

GEORGE E. COOPER, *OGC; Washington, D.C.*—For unusual proficiency, industry, and leadership in directing legal work in connection with the Commodity Credit Corporation, the school lunch, food stamp, and surplus disposal programs of this Department.

CHESTER F. DIEHL, *C&MS; Philadelphia, Pa.*—For superior leadership in directing the meat inspection program in the Northeastern District, resulting in greatly increased consumer protection without increased cost to the Department.

CLARENCE M. EVENSON, *FS; Atlanta, Ga.*—For exceptional administrative leadership in coordinating the complex demands of planning, building, organizing, staffing, and inspecting 10 Job Corps Conservation Centers and numerous economic opportunity projects in the Southern Region.

ALBERT T. HALL, *CES; Hillsdale, Mich.*—For noteworthy achievement in motivating and assisting rural people to recognize and overcome problems of farm management and community development and to increase income and productivity.

WILLIAM E. HARVEY, *IADS; Washington, D.C.*—For creative and highly productive contributions to development in emerging countries through exemplary leadership in developing and administering effective training programs for foreign agricultural leaders.

JAMES C. HAYES, *FHA; Temple, Tex.*—For unusually effective development and administration of a sound and proven farm management program for Farmers Home Administration borrowers in Texas, thereby strengthening and stabilizing the family-type farm.

JACK HAYES, *INF; Washington, D.C.*—For alerting Americans through the 1967 Yearbook of Agriculture to the fact that conservation of land and forests, outdoor recreation, quality of environment, and rural-urban balance are of great importance to our Nation.

JAMES A. HUTCHINS, Jr., *FAS; Cairo, United Arab Republic*—For conspicuous devotion to duty under adverse conditions; high stature representation of U.S. agricultural policy and interests; and outstanding leadership in emergency.

GEORGE S. JAMES, *FS; Milwaukee, Wis.*—For strong, decisive leadership in administering National Forest resources, stimulating and directing effective rural development and poverty programs, and for developing an outstanding personnel program in the Eastern Region.

ROBERT F. KIELDTSEN, *C&MS;*

Dallas, Tex.—For important contributions to the Department's Consumer Protection Program by organizing and directing a more effective meat inspection program in the Southwestern District, and by developing and maintaining more harmonious and productive employee-management and industry relationships.

DONALD W. LONGACRE, *FS; Arcadia, Calif.*—For excellence and widely acclaimed recognition in the field of fire cause investigation and training, both within and outside the Department of Agriculture.

ALTON MANGUM, *SCS; Alexandria, La.*—For notable staff leadership in watershed planning and operations activities and in river basin planning toward a sound soil and water conservation program for Louisiana.

J. KENDALL McCLARREN, *FAS; Washington, D.C.*—For imaginative leadership in devising and implementing innovations in the Department's worldwide promotion program that have helped to expand United States agricultural exports.

TOM F. MCGOURIN, *SCS; Richmond, Va.*—For demonstrating exceptional leadership in applying agricultural science to the solution of non-agricultural problems in rapidly expanding areas, while improving SCS professional working relationships with all resource conservation agencies in Virginia.

EDWIN P. ROGERS, *FHA; Columbia, S.C.*—For dynamic leadership in rural areas development and in providing equal employment and economic opportunities for minority groups in South Carolina.

JUNE L. SEARS, *CES; Wayne, Mich.*—For unusual insight and understanding of people living under adverse conditions, and for providing enlightened leadership to develop their desires to learn and gain self-respect by doing things for themselves.

DORRIS L. WARD, *FHA; Cleveland, Miss.*—For exemplary service to low-income families in an economically depressed area where poor housing and underemployment are prevalent.

ALBERT J. WEBBER, *SCS; Portland, Oreg.*—For dynamic leadership and initiative in formulating, coordinating, and managing an effective soil and water conservation program for the State of Oregon.

RALPH G. WHITMORE, *FHA; Ashdown, Ark.*—For extraordinary achievement in stimulating local initiative and leadership to carry out a pilot rural development effort unequalled anywhere in the United States.

ANCIL C. WILKINSON, *FHA; Monti-*

cello, Ky.—For providing valuable service to the people of McCreary and Wayne Counties, Kentucky, which has greatly contributed to the economic development of depressed areas in these counties.

ELEANOR L. WILSON, *FES; Washington, D.C.*—For dedicated leadership in developing exceptionally effective techniques for reaching and training large numbers of youth, including many disadvantaged, to find new interest in learning and achieving.

SAMUEL H. WORK, *FAS; Bangkok, Thailand*—For unusual skill in developing excellent representational relationships for the benefit of American agriculture and ingenuity and foresight in introducing commodities which increased U.S. agricultural exports to Thailand.

Management and General Administration

MARGARET BOECKMAN, *CSRS; Washington, D.C.*—For exceptional competence, initiative, and skill in assisting with the development of administrative procedures, documentation, and analysis of the cooperative regional research program of the State Agricultural Experiment Stations.

ERWIN R. DRAHEIM, *OP; Washington, D.C.*—For superior leadership and imagination in the development and administration of training and safety programs within the Department of Agriculture and for the enthusiastic promotion of incentive awards for Department employees.

ROBERT C. HOBSON, *SRS; Nashville, Tenn.*—For effectively promoting the adoption of improved agricultural estimating techniques and operating methods, expanding the agricultural statistics program in Tennessee, and extracurricular public service beyond the call of duty.

WOODROW JONES, *ASCS; New Boston, Tex.*—For invaluable contributions to legislation affecting county ASCS employees and for improving employee understanding and acceptance of Federal employment policies.

JAMES V. LEWIS, *OMS; Washington, D.C.*—For exceptional professional competence in organizing, developing, and effectively carrying forward the program of position classification, position management, organization review, and related functions for agencies and offices served by the Office of Management Services.

JASPER E. PALLESEN, *SRS; Topeka, Kans.*—For excellent accomplishments in directing the Kansas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service to provide new and important agricultural estimates and reports on Kansas agriculture.

ALICE L. PRICE, *OMS; Washington,*

D.C.—For major improvements in developing and maintaining an effective integrated directives management program which has contributed to the efficiency of the Office of Management Services.

CARL R. SAPP, *B&F; Washington, D.C.*—For highly competent professional services in coordinating the Department's annual legislative program and reports to Congressional committees on prospective legislation.

ADELAIDE W. WELLS, *ARS; Beltsville, Md.*—For substantial contributions in developing procedures, methods, and practices tailored to the budget and financial management needs of the Crops Research Division scientific programs; and for exceptional competence, initiative, and dedication in assuming growing responsibilities for expanding budget and fiscal operations.

CLYDE E. WETHERINGTON, *ASCS; Washington, D.C.*—For devising and applying advanced methods, techniques, and equipment to effect greater economy and efficiency in the planning, development, and operation of the overall printing, reproduction, and distribution services of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

EMERY C. WILCOX, *SRS; Seattle, Wash.*—For conducting a particularly effective program of public service, publications, and personnel administration in cooperative Federal-State crop reporting work, contributing greatly to the agribusiness community of the State of Washington.

Science, Engineering, and Technology

GORDON ALDERTON, *ARS; Albany, Calif.*—For the discovery that bacterial spores have ion-exchange properties which correlate with their resistance to destruction by heat and for devising an improved process for sterilizing canned foods based on this finding.

EDITH C. ALLEN, *ERS; Washington, D.C.*—For unusual skill and devotion to duty in organizing and evaluating foreign statistics used in appraising the World Food Situation in major policy-making publications of the Department.

GLADYS L. BAKER, *ERS; Washington, D.C.*—For noteworthy contributions to American agriculture in the development and application of the methodology of agricultural history and political science to the analysis of agricultural policy; and interpreting the programs of agriculture and the Department to the scholarly world and to the American public.

MYRON K. BRAKKE, *ARS; Lincoln, Nebr.*—For exceptional resourcefulness in solving problems of plant virus occurrence, identification, and transmission in cereal crops and in developing and utiliz-

ing improved chemical, physical, and biological methods for virus characterization.

ROYDEN O. BUTTERFIELD, *ARS; Peoria, Ill.*—For pioneering achievement and significant advances in the interdisciplinary research area of simulating chemical and physical processes on analog and digital computers.

WILLIAM C. COOPER, *ARS; Orlando, Fla.*—For major contributions on the physiology of citrus as related to growth regulating hormones, salt tolerance, cold hardiness, and fruit abscission.

FRANK G. HAWKSWORTH, *FS; Fort Collins, Colo.*—For internationally recognized leadership and performance in basic and applied research on mistletoes that has served as the rationale for effective operational programs against these damaging parasites of western forests.

ALBERT B. HEAGY, *Maryland State Department of Agriculture; College Park, Md.*—For creative excellence, exceptional leadership, and conspicuous service to agriculture, his State, and the Nation in developing and directing programs to modernize and unify the administration of the control programs for agricultural chemicals.

JEANNE M. HOLMES, *NAL; Washington, D.C.*—For imaginative contributions, exceptional initiative, and outstanding accomplishment in implementing production of internationally significant works for research and scientific personnel and libraries, in this Nation and abroad.

PETER KOCH, *FS; Alexandria, La.*—For extraordinary personal achievement and research leadership resulting in substantial benefits to rural economy and employment through more efficient manufacture and broadened outlets for products from southern forests.

WARD W. KONKLE, *OMS; Washington, D.C.*—For unique achievement in facilitating communication between scientific disciplines and interpreting modern agricultural research to the public.

RICHARD D. LANE, *FS; Upper Darby, Pa.*—For exemplary administration of regional forestry research programs, outstanding achievements in the developments of cooperative relations, and exceptional foresight in the initiation of research to meet emerging problems.

DAVID E. LARSON, *FS; Atlanta, Ga.*—For application of distinctive technical knowledge of the natural sciences to formulation of water planning activities, resulting in exceptional contribution to the economic restoration of soil productivity and hydrological condition.

ROSS H. MELLINGER, *SCS; Morgan-*

town, W. Va.—For unexcelled dynamic leadership in woodland conservation techniques that greatly improved services to landowners of West Virginia and Maryland, stimulated rural economy, and improved the quality of the environment.

ASTOR PERRY, *CES; Raleigh, N.C.*—For excellent judgment in determining the needs of peanut producers, for his imagination and use of sociological and psychological principles in developing an educational program to fulfill those needs.

ALLEN G. PITTMAN, *ARS; Albany, Calif.*—For inventing economical oil- and water-resistant finishes for wool and other textiles through the synthesis of new types of fluoropolymers and systematic study of their surface properties.

CARROLL N. SMITH, *ARS; Gainesville, Fla.*—For advancing research in medical entomology of particular value to the military and to civilian health agencies throughout the world.

JAMES H. STEWART, *C&MS; Washington, D.C.*—For important contributions to the health of the consuming public through the development of programs to detect and eliminate sources of animals coming under Federal inspection whose tissues contain illegal tolerances of pesticides and drug residues unsafe for human consumption.

TIEN CHIOH TSO, *ARS; Beltsville, Md.*—For incisive research and forceful leadership in tobacco studies to identify and reduce or remove health hazardous materials.

Achievement by Support Personnel

MARGARET E. CRUBAUGH, *C&MS; Arlington, Va.*—For excellence in the performance of administrative functions and for inspirational leadership for lower-grade personnel contributing importantly to the effective and orderly expansion of the Food Stamp Program.

VIVIAN M. HAMLIN, *C&MS; Phoenix, Ariz.*—For exceptional proficiency in the performance of administrative and clerical duties greatly facilitating the effective operation of the Livestock Market News program in Arizona.

ROY L. HOBACK, *OMS; Washington, D.C.*—For commendable performance of duplicating work for agencies serviced by the Office of Management Services.

KEITH F. KINION, *SCS; Mason City, Iowa*—For significant achievement in developing widespread application and landowner acceptance of new conserva-

tion terrace systems on a variety of complex landscapes compatible with the use of modern multi-row farm equipment.

MARIE R. KLINK, *FHA; Okmulgee, Okla.*—For unusual ability and initiative in performance of duties as county office clerk while handling a particularly heavy and varied caseload, thereby rendering exceptional service to rural people in Okmulgee County, Okla.

MARVIN M. McLELLAN, *SCS; Lexington, Miss.*—For excellence in operations work and dynamic ability to inform others which contributed substantially to resource conservation in Lexington, Holmes County, Mississippi, and other areas of the Southeast.

M. LUCILE PERRY, *B&F; Washington, D.C.*—For extraordinary skill in carrying out demanding administrative and liaison responsibilities, and superior performance as secretary to the Department's Director of Finance.

MARIAN V. POWERS, *C&MS; Washington, D.C.*—For exceptional proficiency in the performance of complex secretarial and administrative duties greatly facilitating the administration of nationwide marketing, regulatory, and program activities affecting the fruit and vegetable industries.

Heroic Action

NORMAN C. ANDERSON, *FS; Springerville, Ariz.*—For courage and exemplary effort, in the face of hazardous conditions, placing the safety of a fellow forest fire officer ahead of his own and effecting his rescue.

Group Achievement

BIOPOLYMER RESEARCH TEAM, *ARS; Peoria, Ill.*—For outstanding creativity and highly significant microbiological, chemical, and engineering team research resulting in the discovery, development, industrial acceptance, and commercialization of a new industrial gum of cereal grain origin.

DIVISION OF HOME ECONOMICS, *FES; Washington, D.C.*—For dynamic national leadership to improve family living by developing educational programs for the disadvantaged, simplified publications for low-literate homemakers, and special programs to increase consumer competence.

FOREST PRODUCTS MARKETING LABORATORY, *FS; Princeton, W. Va.*—For significantly expanding markets, manufacture, and employment in wood products industries in Appalachia and the Nation, through interdisciplinary research, coordinated with indus-

try, to solve problems limiting wood use.

MANAGEMENT DATA SERVICE CENTER, *OMI; New Orleans, La.,* and MODE STAFF, *OMI; Washington, D.C.*—For exceptional ingenuity and superior performance in developing and implementing a Department-wide computerized payroll, personnel, and financial reporting system.

MISSISSIPPI ASCS COUNTY OFFICE, *ASCS; Charleston, Miss.*—For exemplary administration demonstrated through economics, efficiency, excellent program participation, and better understanding of farm programs not only by farmers but also the general public in Mississippi County.

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION, *INF; Washington, D.C.*—For valuable service to the Department in disseminating information to the public by imaginative production, use, and distribution of still photography.

ROANE COUNTY TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL, *Spencer, W. Va.*—For unique contribution to the growth and betterment of Roane County by providing exceptional assistance, through a unified approach, in making the services of all agencies more effective and in initiating worthwhile projects.

SNAKE RIVER CONSERVATION RESEARCH CENTER, *ARS; Twin Falls, Idaho*—For superior organization and development of a vigorous, well-rounded soil and water conservation research program geared to the vital needs of the Snake River Plains.

SOIL RESISTANT AND SOIL RELEASE RESEARCH GROUP, *ARS; New Orleans, La.*—For the development of a soil release finish for durable press and wash-wear cottons based on carboxymethylcellulose.

STATE TECHNICAL ACTION PANEL, *Morgantown, W. Va.*—For extraordinary contribution to the growth and development of West Virginia through outreach by cooperatively planning and directing a comprehensive attack on the economic and social problems of rural areas.

SUGARBEET INVESTIGATIONS, *ARS; Beltsville, Md.*—For development of basic parental lines and hybrid varieties of monogerm sugarbeet that eliminated the need for hand singling and permits complete mechanization of production practices.

WATER SUPPLY FORECASTING BRANCH, *SCS; Portland, Oreg.*—For significant accomplishments in development and utilization of electronic telemetry equipment.

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USDA

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



Under Secretary Addresses Science Fair Honorees

Under Secretary *John A. Schnittker* recently advised 54 Washington area student-exhibitors at the Department's Eleventh Annual Science Fair not to underestimate the importance of events in their early lives which may seem casual.

Referring to the significance of the exhibits on display in the USDA Patio, the Under Secretary said: "These occurrences may really be decisive events in your life" and "a direct experience in this work may yet lead you on to places you want to go."

The students, their parents, teachers and principals met with the Under Secretary following the presentation of merit certificates for exhibits that ranged from "Water Desalination" to "The Reconstitution of TMV with TRSVRNA to

Form Active Pseudoviruses."

Later the student-exhibitors lunched with Department officials in the Log Lodge at the Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md., and heard an address by *Mrs. John A. Baker*, wife of the assistant secretary.

They also were taken on a tour of the Center where discussions were held on scientific projects under way at Beltsville.

The annual science fair, sponsored jointly by the Department and the Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture (OPEDA), is designed to lend support to school science programs, to interest students in learning more about agricultural sciences, and to introduce young scientists to USDA career possibilities.

Secretary Freeman recently established an **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY**. Assistant Secretary *John A. Baker* will be the chairman of the committee, and Forest Service Chief *Edward P. Cliff* will be vice-chairman. A member of the Forest Service will serve as executive secretary for the committee. Selection of the committee's 15 members may be, but is not limited to, representatives of the following: State forestry organizations, small wood-using

industries, large landowning timber industries, farmers, non-farm owners of small forest tracts, forestry educators, consultant foresters, rural youth leaders, garden club members or other women's groups, and mayors or other urban leaders.

The committee will meet at the request of the chairman to advise the Department on matters relating to the protection, management, and development of the Nation's non-Federal forest land and resources. The committee will serve for 2 years.

1968 WILLIAM A. JUMP MEMORIAL AWARDS

The William A. Jump Memorial Award is presented annually to Federal employees under age 37 in recognition of outstanding service in public administration.

This year's honorees are:

GARY D. BEARDEN, director, Washington Data Processing Center, Statistical Reporting Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture—For dynamic leadership and exemplary achievement in developing and administering the Washington Data Processing Center of the Department of Agriculture; for outstanding contributions in the development of young talent through his innovative program of ADP internship; and for service to the community through on-the-job training for the underprivileged.

ALAN D. BERG, chief, Food Resources and Regional Development Division, United States AID Mission to India, Agency for International Development—For outstanding achievement in advancing mutual understanding between the United States and India, for assistance in averting famine in Bihar Province, for encouraging the Government of India to mount a serious campaign against child malnutrition, and for stimulating the Indian food industry to become an effective instrument for improving Indian nutrition.

The Jump Award was established in 1950 in honor of the late William A. Jump, Budget and Finance Officer of the Department of Agriculture, who was recognized throughout the Federal Government, and nationally, for his leadership and distinguished contribution to effective public administration.

The Awards Committee this year *Frank H. Weitzel*, assistant comptroller general of the United States, chairman; *Carl B. Barnes*, director of personnel, Department of Agriculture; *Sam R. Broadbent*, special assistant to the director, Bureau of the Budget (retired); *James F. Kelly*, assistant secretary and comptroller, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; *Dr. Harold H. Roth*, professor, Government and Public Administration, American University.

Managers Urged To Spend More Time in Administration

Managers in Government should devote more time to personnel management, is the advice of *Nicholas Oganovic*, executive director, Civil Service Commission.

Addressing the April luncheon of the Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture (OPEDA), Oganovic said: "If you, as managers, are not spending at least 50 percent of your time in personnel administration, you're missing a bet because if you get the right people, the job will take care of itself."

As one solution to the overall problem of what he termed as a breakdown in communications between management and employees in Government, Oganovic suggested that "personnel people receive operations (program) experience and operations people become exposed to personnel programs."

The CSC executive paid tribute to USDA for "your outstanding record in cost reduction" and also commended the Office of Personnel for its willingness to "stick its neck out in initiating enlightened personnel program changes."

Oganovic stressed the need for expanding programs that would enhance efforts of the Federal Government to recruit its share of top people. He urged expansion of the internship concept (6 months in three different Government agencies, 6 months in the Civil Service Commission—a total of 2 years). He also favors programs aimed at recruiting college students during their sophomore years. "We're now starting too late after they've already made up their minds," he said.

Oganovic said he'd also like to see the combining of CSC examinations—graduate-type examinations with the current examinations. He believes, also, there should be two definite and distinct "career ladders" available to Government employees—professional and technical.

The CSC official foresees increased cooperation at various levels of Government, providing a joint register and joint testing. This, he said, is one feature of the general trend to gain greater mobility of employees—both among agencies in the Federal Government and between the Federal Government and State and local governments.

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for June include: Kentucky bluegrass; Cananda maple leaf; Hershey, Pa.; seaside special; Shady Grove luncheon-matinee; historical Philadelphia-Longwood Gar-



Under Secretary John A. Schnittker, left, and Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff, right, present Clint Davis with FIRST SILVER SMOKEY AWARD AND CERTIFICATE.

CLINT DAVIS GIVEN FIRST SILVER SMOKEY

Clint Davis, recently retired director of Forest Service Information, has probably done more than any other man to make Smokey Bear a national reminder of man's role in preventing forest fires. So it was all together fitting that he be the first to receive a "Silver Smokey" award for his endeavors.

In presenting the award, the sponsors of the Smokey Bear Fire Prevention Campaign (The Advertising Council, Inc., the National Association of State Foresters, and the Forest Service) pointed out that a "Silver Smokey" will from now on be awarded each year in recognition of outstanding service by a professional associate of the campaign. The campaign's sponsors will continue, in addition, to award an annual "Golden Smokey" to an individual or unit outside of the organization who has assisted notably in the battle against forest fires.

The pioneer "Silver Smokey" presentation was made at the annual meeting of forest fire prevention cooperators and conservation leaders in Washington, D.C. It was given for "distinguished service in forest fire prevention over an extended period of years" and was determined by nomination from fire control specialists from all over the Nation.

Davis served as director of the Forest Service's Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention (CFFP) Campaign from 1946 to 1955. He was the prime mover in bringing the "live Smokey" from New Mexico to the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., in 1950.

dens and Fountain Cascades.

For information about club tours, or membership applications: *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, phone DU 8-5611.

New Beltsville Library Automated by 1971

An entirely automated USDA library at Beltsville, Md., by 1971 is the goal of National Agricultural Library Director *John D. Sherrod*.

Speaking at a plant science seminar at Beltsville recently, Sherrod said the first step in automating the library would be to use a computer for inventory control purposes. A computer system, he said, would provide for the best acquisition, control, and inventory management practices.

Once this is done, he said, a computer could be used as a source for information requests.

"This is a new approach, never before tried," he said. "We could install request terminals throughout the new building leading directly to a data base. In this way, we could use existing computerized data."

Sherrod, who became director of the NAL upon the retirement of *Foster E. Mohrhardt* in February, said he immediately found himself faced with a dilemma regarding the role of the library. It must function as a national archive and must serve USDA's staff at the same time. Service to USDA must come first, he said.

Sherrod also discussed the role of the existing branch libraries in regard to the main library. He compared the system to a giant "Montgomery Ward" operation, with the main library as a warehouse where everything is stored and the branches or "satellites" serving as mail-order shops, where most frequently used materials would also be kept.

He said the main library at Beltsville will eventually have "file integrity." Books will not be stored by subject matter, which takes up too much space. Rather, storage will be by size, frequency of use, or some other arrangement. Therefore, he said, persons would not be permitted to browse, because books on a particular subject would not be kept together.

However, he added, there will be browsing and reading rooms at the satellite libraries.

Sherrod said there had been no decision as yet about which existing branches will remain open and which will close. A poll of USDA employees on this matter is being conducted.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's June list. Featured are: *milk and dairy products*. Other plentifuls include *eggs, vegetable fats and oils, and seasonal vegetables*.

'Partners-in-4-H' Recognized

Two women and six men making important contributions to 4-H work in the United States have been chosen "Partners-in-4-H." Selections announced recently by the Federal Extension Service are:

Eleanor J. Echo, 4-H stylist, New York City, N.Y.; *David Heft*, chief, Higher Education and University Exchange, Pan-American Union, Washington, D.C.; *Harold E. Heldreth*, director, Youth Activities Department, National Safety Council, Chicago, Ill.; *Dean McNeal*, Minneapolis, Minn.; *James E. Marler*, sales company president, New York City, N.Y.; *Raymond E. Rowland*, feed company director, St. Louis, Mo.; *W. T. Schnathorst*, educational services supervisor, farm equipment company, Chicago, Ill.; and *Dr. Wallace Ann Wesley*, assistant socio-economics director, American Medical Association, Chicago, Ill.

The new Partners-in-4-H received special honors during the recent 38th National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. They were cited during a luncheon and annual "Friends of 4-H Day" program.

Attending the event were about 210 4-H delegates, an exchange delegation of 4-H'ers from the 10 provinces of Canada, and Friends of 4-H in and outside the National Capital area. The recipients were cited for their service to agriculture, and for their contribution to the progress and success of 4-H work in America.

A 4-H "Crested Clover" award went to Station WMSB-TV at Michigan State University for pioneering in developing "4-H On-the-Air" educational programs, which now reach more than 1 million youths on many stations throughout the country.

DRUGS FOR PNEUMONIA FIGHT PLANT DISEASE

Plants might not get pneumonia, but research shows that antibiotics that cure a certain type of pneumonia in humans also will cure a serious vegetable disease.

Aster yellows—a disease of many plants including tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, celery, and onions—causes severe stunting, yellowing, and flower sterility. And it eventually destroys the plant.

Work done by Japanese scientists on a mulberry disease led Agricultural Research Service scientists to suspect that certain diseases, long thought to be caused by viruses, are really caused by "mycoplasma-like" organisms similar to those responsible for diseases in men and other warm blooded animals.

When treated with well-known anti-



Mrs. Fannie Byrd, now a regular USDA employee, is the MOST RECENT "GRADUATE" OF THE PLANT AND OPERATIONS' TRAINING PROGRAM for printing plant helpers. Operation of an assembling machine is only one of the many skills Mrs. Byrd acquired during a 4-month training session with the Service Operations Division. The special program, organized by P&O in cooperation with the District of Columbia's Work and Training Opportunity Center, provides individuals the opportunity to upgrade skills and to gain valuable work experience through "on-site" training. On-the-job training is limited to one person for each session so that each will receive the maximum guidance and counseling. Mrs. Byrd's successful completion of the training program is another example of USDA's efforts to develop special skills among area residents.



USDA EMPLOYEES ACTIVATED—The combat ready 150th Tactical Fighter Group, New Mexico Air National Guard, called to active duty recently, includes four USDA employees from Albuquerque, and one from Springer, N. Mex. They are, left to right, Capt. Dean Stoneman, SCS soil scientist; Capt. Lou Armijo, writer for the Forest Service's Southwestern Region; Sgt. David Radley, FHA assistant county supervisor at Springer; Sgt. Richard Fortune, Forest Service cartographic technician; and Lt. Ron Bahm, Cibola National Forest landscape architect. The unit currently is stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque.

biotics, plants which showed severe disease symptoms produced new healthy leaves and flowers. But when they were taken off the drugs, their symptoms reappeared 3 or 4 weeks later.

SOILS LABORATORIES HELP SAVE MILLIONS

Scientists at three unusual laboratories are helping property owners and taxpayers save millions of dollars a year by studying the soil on which crops are grown and homes, highways, bridges, and other structures are built.

The laboratories, operated by the Soil Conservation Service at Beltsville, Md., Lincoln, Nebr., and Riverside, Calif., study an average of 2,000 soil samples a year and make more than 20,000 determinations about these soils.

Soil scientists at the laboratories weigh, measure, and analyze samples of the more than 70,000 different kinds of soil known to exist in the United States. They find out how stable a soil will be as a foundation for buildings or roads, how much the soil swells on wetting and shrinks on drying, the tendency of a soil to seal at the surface and cause excessive water runoff, and other information required to classify and map different soil boundaries as a guide to land use.

The soil survey laboratories back up field teams in assisting farmers, other rural landowners, community planners, land developers, highway engineers, and others to make sound land use decisions. They provide information that is essential to soil scientists in the field who must make on-the-spot judgments of texture, mineral composition, and other soil properties.

Laboratory scientists also check field estimates for accuracy and are able to give more precise descriptions of each type of soil than is possible in the field. For example, USDA points out, an experienced soil scientist can feel a sample of soil and estimate the amount of clay present, but only the laboratory can determine how much is actually there. The soil scientist in the field can sometimes recognize quartz, feldspar, and mica in a soil sample, but laboratory tests are required to determine the percentage of these materials.

USDA records show that of about 2.3 billion acres of land in the United States, more than 685 million acres have been studied and mapped by modern soil survey standards. All soils tested are classified and named according to a national system.

Soils information for each State is published in a series of soil survey reports, usually by counties, that go to field soil scientists and agricultural libraries and are available to soil scientists and the general public throughout the country. State and local agencies and organizations cooperate with the USDA in making soil surveys.

AWARDS

Dr. George W. Irving, Jr., Agricultural Research Service administrator, was honored recently with the **SERVICE AWARD OF THE WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF ALPHA CHI SIGMA**, the national fraternity of professional chemists. Dr. Irving was recognized by the fraternity at a banquet in Arlington, Va. The presentation was made by Dr. John H. Weisburger of the National Cancer Institute, president of the chapter. Dr. Irving was cited for his many years of dedicated service to chemists and chemistry, and was cited particularly for his effective research leadership in ARS and his warmhearted support of the professional societies of Washington and the Nation.

The **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTANTS ASSOCIATION** recently presented Bennie T. Cockfield, Consumer and Marketing Service, with an honorable mention award in recognition of his achievements in improving financial management in the Federal service. Through Cockfield's dynamic leadership, exceptional competence, dedicated and creative efforts in developing program accounting systems and procedures, financial management of consumer food programs of C&MS has improved materially. Cockfield serves as group leader, in charge of program accounting in the Finance Division.

Dr. Harold W. Hawk, ARS animal physiologist, **PRESENTED THE ANNUAL UPJOHN LECTURE** at the recent American Fertility Society meeting in San Francisco. Dr. Hawk was selected for this honor, which includes an award of \$1,000, because of his outstanding research contributions in the field of reproductive physiology. Much of his work on the control of fertility in farm animals has important implications for human family planning programs in developing nations.

Mrs. Irene H. Wolgamot, home economist in the ARS Consumer and Food Economics Research Division and assistant to the division director, has been **AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF DISTINCTION BY THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOME ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION**. The president-elect of the D.C. chapter, Mrs. Wolgamot has been working on a consumer education program for older Americans sponsored jointly by the HEA group and the American Association of Retired Persons.



Assistant Secretary Joseph M. Robertson, left; Winn F. Finner, associate administrator, Consumer and Marketing Service; and Carl B. Barnes (far right), director of personnel, congratulate **BENNIE T. COCKFIELD** for receiving an honorable mention award from the Federal Government Accountants Association.

Agri Briefs

MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON WILL GIVE THE FIRST B. Y. MORRISON MEMORIAL LECTURE June 26 in Portland, Ore. The lecture, to be delivered before the national convention of the American Institute of Architects, will highlight the nature session of the 1968 convention theme, *Man/Architecture/Nature*. The memorial lecture, sponsored by the Agricultural Research Service, will be presented annually to honor B. Y. Morrison as the first director of USDA's National Arboretum and creator of the famed Glenn Dale azalea. The lectures will be given by individuals chosen for their significant contributions to the science or practice of ornamental horticulture.

SMOKEY BEAR, THE RESPECTED SPOKESMAN FOR FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, is doing a better job of telling his fire-safety story than ever, after 23 years on duty. In the first nationwide sample study of popularity and effectiveness ever conducted on the Smokey campaign, nine out of 10 adults and nearly all school-age children were able to identify correctly the fire-preventin' bear.



Secretaries of the Office of Personnel were treated to orchids, coffee, and lunches recently by their bosses as **PART OF THE CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL SECRETARIES' WEEK**.

APPOINTMENTS

Robert M. McConnell was recently transferred from Lima, Peru, where he was assistant agricultural attaché, to the Dominican Republic and the **POSITION OF AGRICULTURAL ATTACHÉ**. He replaces John C. Hobbes who was reassigned to Washington, D.C.

In addition to McConnell's attaché duties in the Dominican Republic, he will have regional reporting responsibility as agricultural officer for Haiti and Jamaica.

In his new position, McConnell will be concerned with both imports of U.S. products and exports to the United States. The United States exports about \$76 million worth of agricultural products annually to the Dominican Republic, about half the nation's agricultural imports. Major U.S. exports to the Republic are wheat and cereal, fruits and vegetables, and dairy products.

The Dominican Republic annually exports about \$122 million worth of sugar, coffee, and cocoa to the United States, a sum representing almost 90 percent of the Republic's total food exports.

Ronello M. Davis was recently appointed **STATE CONSERVATIONIST FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE IN PENNSYLVANIA**. He succeeds Ivan McKeever, who retired after 34 years of Federal service. McKeever has been Pennsylvania State conservationist since April 1946. Davis has been assistant to McKeever since June 1963.

The new State conservationist is a native of Ambrose, N. Dak. He received a degree in agricultural education from North Dakota Agricultural College in 1949 and joined SCS at Williston, N. Dak., in August 1952. He served in various posts in the State until his transfer to Pennsylvania.

As head of SCS activities in Pennsylvania, Davis will direct technical assistance to 64 soil and water conservation districts, 27 watershed protection and flood prevention projects, and 2 Resource Conservation and Development projects.

Secretary Freeman recently announced appointment of Robert D. Partridge, general manager, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), to the **NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES**. Partridge succeeds Clyde T. Ellis, former general manager of NRECA and now a special assistant to Secretary Freeman.

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

YEARBOOK IS GUIDE TO U.S. VACATIONS

OUTDOORS USA, the latest Yearbook of Agriculture, is a made-to-order guide to vacations in the United States and to the vast recreational resources of rural America, the Department says.

Among the travel targets is the world's largest outdoor playground—the 186 million acres of the National Forests and National Grasslands. Last year, this “playground” provided about 153 million visitor days of use for recreation purposes. The National Forests have more than 7,000 camp and picnic grounds, able to accommodate half a million people at a time.

More than 42,000 farmers and ranchers now use parts of their land for income-producing recreation. Last year, three-fourths of the small watershed plans completed with USDA help included among their goals recreation and fish and wildlife habitat, as well as flood prevention and municipal water benefits. About 750 watersheds have been authorized for development since 1960.

The 408-page OUTDOORS USA Yearbook, illustrated with 267 photographs, may be obtained for \$2.75 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

World Animal Production Meeting To Draw U.S., Foreign Scientists

Agricultural scientists from the United States and 18 foreign nations will address the Second World Conference on Animal Production, July 14 to 20, 1968, the Department has announced.

The conference will meet at the University of Maryland's Center of Adult Education in College Park, reports *Dr. Ralph E. Hodgson*, director of animal husbandry research, Agricultural Research Service. He is chairman of the Conference Organizing Committee.

Dr. George L. Mehren, assistant secretary, will deliver the keynote address, opening eight general sessions of invited talks that will begin the morning of July 15. More than 30 scientists from both

Secretary Freeman receives an explanation of computer operation at the Department's computer center from two Washington, D.C., high school students. THE STUDENTS WERE AMONG NINE TO WHOM THE SECRETARY PRESENTED CERTIFICATES OF ACCOMPLISHMENT following completion of a training course in automatic data processing (ADP). Since last November employees of the center have donated their Saturday mornings to give the students—all from Washington, D.C. high schools—instruction in punch card operations, computer programming, and other ADP methods. The students are Joan Gamma, Woodrow Wilson High School and Bernard Upshur, Jr., of Spingarn High School. The Center is helping them locate jobs in ADP.



USDA Increases Nutrition Value of Food Bought for Donation

The Department took a major step to help close the “nutrition gap” among low-income families when Secretary Freeman recently directed that foods purchased for the family donation program be selected to provide the greatest possible variety of nutrients to help these people achieve a more adequate diet.

The Secretary referred to the action as “the most significant development in commodity distribution since 1961, when donated foods for the needy were doubled in volume, variety, and dollar value.”

The Department can increase some nutrients by relatively small shifts in procurement. “For instance,” Secretary Freeman said, “the recent purchase of instant potatoes is part of USDA's long-standing potato diversion activities. They

were enriched with vitamins A and C, to provide a better balance of nutrients in the foods donated to families.”

A recent report of dietary levels in the United States shows that while there is a “nutrition gap” among families of all income levels, those under \$3,000 have the highest percentage of poor diets—36 percent, compared with 20 percent for the total population.

Under the program, administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service, USDA acquires food through its price-support and surplus-removal programs. The food, suitably processed and packaged, is shipped to participating States and territories. The States take over the management and distribution to local communities. The communities make final distribution.

developing and more highly developed countries on six continents have accepted invitations to speak on “The Role of Animal Science in Meeting World Food Needs,” the overall theme of the conference.

Preliminary programs, preregistration, housing reservations, bookings for conference-sponsored tours, and other conference information can be obtained from the Conference Secretariat, P.O. Box 244, Beltsville, Md. 20705.

USDA YIELDS THIRD JUMP AWARDEE IN 17 YEARS

"I had to give up what I liked best, writing computer programs, and devote myself to resource management and liaison," says *Gary D. Bearden*, one of this year's Jump Award winners.

And that's about why he won it.

The Jump Award is made each year to a young government executive for outstanding management. This year, besides Bearden, the award was presented to *Alan D. Berg*, Agency for International Development. Only two other USDA employees have received the award since it was begun in 1950 in memory of William A. Jump, a USDA Budget and Finance officer. USDA's *Talcott W. Edminster* was the recipient in 1951 and *Dr. Robert S. Sharman* in 1958.

Bearden heads the Washington Data Processing Center, where he has worked since it was founded in 1962.

It all started when Secretary Freeman merged the data processing functions of the Statistical Reporting Service and the Agricultural Research Service. Bearden, who was then an acting unit chief, suggested that the new center be run on a reimbursable basis for other agencies. That meant the center would derive funds only for the work it did, such as writing programs, punching cards, and allotting computer time.

Today, the center services 14 Federal agencies besides those in USDA, boasts a talented staff numbering 130, and runs several unique training programs.

The center's success came not only from Bearden's suggestion, but also from his management ability—much of it, he adds, learned from his predecessor *J. Frank Kendrick*, a pioneer in USDA data processing work.

"The most important problem," says Bearden, "is that the computer industry today is led by technicians, not managers. When a man becomes manager, he must learn how to make people work, and forget how to make machines work." Bearden adds, "The manager has to work with his staff without antagonizing them."

Managing, according to Bearden, involves telling people what to do, not how to do it. He has great confidence in the abilities of his workers, because he hand-picked them and saw to it that they were trained well.

Bearden's staff members know that he knows what they do. He can write the program, punch the cards, run them through the computer, and then interpret the results as well as anyone in the shop. He enjoys the creativity of writing programs, but had to give this up when he became the boss.

Giving up things to get ahead, however, has become rather routine for

Bearden. He had to give up further post-graduate study in plant breeding to serve in the Air Force in 1957. This was shortly after he received a master's degree in the subject at Texas A&M University.

Then he had to give up pilot training when he broke a rib, and subsequently was assigned to work in computer centers in Texas and Korea.

After completing military service, he gave up the idea of returning to his native Texas (he was born in Paducah) when offered a job as an ARS analytical statistician at Beltsville, Md., where he worked from 1959 to 1962. In 1962 he went to SRS as a section head and worked on Dr. Kendrick's staff.

As the center's director, Bearden has supervised the publication of a standards manual by the WDPC. "I didn't write it," he says, "but everything I want to say is in it."

The manual tells how to set up and run a computer processing center. It has been hailed by Government and industry as an innovation in management improvement. Several computer centers in the Washington area have sent representatives to get Bearden's advice on setting up similar manuals at their installations.

Training is a sphere of effective management in which Bearden is particularly interested. He has completed many courses at leading computer-industry schools to keep up with latest developments in his constantly expanding field.

For his staff, he has set up a continuing training program of on-the-job and classroom training. This assures him a staff that grows in knowledge as the industry expands; for the staff members it means they move up as they demonstrate greater skill. Bearden is so interested in this aspect of management that he has continued to teach classes while directing the center's operation.

Three other training programs Bearden began deserve special mention. The first is for customers of the center. If they are to get the maximum benefit from the center, they must know how it runs and exactly what it can do. So, representatives, called interns, come from other agencies to work in the center for a year. Attending some classes, but mostly working with the staff, they become part of the operation. When the year is up, they return to their agencies. So far, 13 interns from other agencies have been trained.

On Saturdays, the center trains 10 underprivileged District of Columbia high school students for jobs in data processing. Staff members teach the classes voluntarily without pay and on



USDA JUMP AWARD WINNER GARY D. BEARDEN discusses operations of the Washington Data Processing Center.

California and New York are the **FIRST STATES TO SIGN COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH USDA TO ESTABLISH FEDERAL-STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAMS** under the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967.

Under the agreements, the Consumer and Marketing Service—which administers the program—is providing up to 50 percent of each State's meat inspection costs and is offering technical assistance in planning and developing State programs that equal Federal standards.

The Act provides for a single minimum standard—whether meat is State or Federally inspected—as the means for achieving a wholesome meat supply for all Americans.

The States will each operate its own inspection program for meats that are sold or shipped within State boundaries, but C&MS will continue to inspect meat packed or processed by plants for interstate or foreign commerce.

their own time. This program has been so successful that, according to Bearden, "I intend to hire several members of the class as soon as they graduate from high school."

The third program will train 250 people from 70 foreign countries in the skills they will need in taking the 1970 World Census of Agriculture for the United Nations.

Bearden manages to run the center and oversee the training despite being afflicted with "meeting-itus," an occupational disease of most managers. The liaison with other agencies consumes much of his time, and since the center will do \$2.4 million worth of business this fiscal year, up from \$1.3 million only 3 years ago, rapport with customers is an important part of his job.

And it's for doing the job well that Bearden has won the Jump Award. There is no money or promotion involved, just a gold key and a certificate. But there's the satisfaction in being recognized as a key man in Government service.



Citizens of Saint Marys County, Md., recently received the medical service of a 3-DAY EYE EXAMINATION CLINIC in their rural community of Leonardtown. Sponsored by the District 22-C Lions Clubs cooperating with George Washington University Medical Center, the Society for the Prevention of Blindness, the Red Cross, Grey Ladies, and others, the cooperative effort brought badly needed medical services to a rural area. The follow-up to correct eye defects for those who could not afford it was financed by the

Lions Clubs. Secretary Freeman wrote congratulating those primarily responsible for providing the service to the rural community. He expressed his and the Department's support for more of this kind of public service for rural areas. Frame at right shows County Technical Action Panel Chairman William B. Groome of Farmers Home Administration as he calls to have his office notify additional rural people that they may be examined during the afternoon session.

80 Foreign Visitors To Have FHA Training This Summer

This summer, the Farmers Home Administration is training 80 foreign visitors, mostly in small groups, in offices around the country.

A group from Turkey was in Alabama through June 14, and another group from Turkey was in Mississippi, June 10-14. Visitors from Zambia were in Iowa, May 22-24 and in Oklahoma, June 3-14. A Guatemalan team was in Puerto Rico, May 12-June 7, and a group from Kenya was in Kentucky, May 13-15.

Others that FHA will train in the next few months include groups from Romania, United Arab Republic, Pakistan, Chile, India, Afghanistan, and Turkey—all to work in Utah July 1-3 and in Washington July 28-29. Teams from Ethiopia, Nepal, and Zambia will be in Oregon, July 8-26. Some 22 visitors from seven countries will be in Arkansas, July 31-Aug. 2. And visitors from Morocco and Cameroon will work in North Dakota, Aug. 12-14, and from Cameroon, Kenya, and Zambia, in Puerto Rico, Sept. 9-13.

In addition, 33 foreign visitors this year have already received FHA field training in Mississippi, Arizona, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Agriculture's yearly contribution to the U.S. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS the past 4 years averaged \$1 billion.



TREE IDENTIFICATION BOOK PRESENTED— Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico Santiago Polanco-Abreu, second from left, receives from Dr. Elbert L. Little, Jr., a colorful copy of the first three identification book ever translated into Spanish by the Forest Service. Accompanying Dr. Little for the presentation at the Commissioner's office in Washington, D.C., were Mrs. Carmen Rodriguez, employed in the Forest Service herbarium, and Mrs. Hortensia Iglesias (right), a secretary in the Timber Management Research Branch. Dr. Little also presented Commissioner Polanco-Abreu an English version of the book. (See story in April 25, 1968, issue of "USDA".)

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for July include: West Virginia special; New York City-Hyde Park-West Point; Tangier Island; Shady Grove Saturday matinee-dinner.

For information about club tours, contact Mrs. Betty Brooks, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250, phone DU 8-5611.

Annual Outlook Conference To Be Held in February

The National Agricultural Outlook Conference, held in mid-November in past years, will be held February 17-20, in 1969. The content and format of the conference also will be changed.

The conference will give more emphasis than past conferences to overall economic activity, monetary developments, labor policy, the balance of payments, and foreign economic conditions.

Holding the conference early in the year will permit better perspective on economic developments. In addition, the February date will permit the conference to consider the outlook in relation to the Federal Budget and to the Economic Report of the President.

The traditional "commodity outlook sessions" will continue to be held. Special sessions for family economists also will be continued.

The Department has held outlook conferences annually since 1924, except for 2 war years. Chief participants have been State extension economists, home economists, and USDA economists. However, in recent years, participation by representatives of agribusiness and foreign embassies has increased.

USDA FOOD DONATIONS to school children, needy families, and needy persons in charitable institutions totaled more than 894 million pounds during July-December 1967, up nearly 34 percent over the same period a year earlier.

APPOINTMENTS

Secretary Freeman recently announced the appointment of **KENNETH K. KROGH** AS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR EXPORT PROGRAMS of the Foreign Agricultural Service. Krogh moves up from the post of deputy assistant administrator for export programs, FAS, in which he has served since 1963. He succeeds David L. Hume who has been appointed U.S. agricultural attaché to the United Kingdom, London. In his new position, Krogh is responsible for supervising and directing USDA's world-wide market promotion program for U.S. food and agricultural products. The program involves joint industry/government activities with more than 60 U.S. trade associations in more than 70 countries. Krogh entered USDA in 1948 in Chicago. He transferred to Washington in 1949, where he has held a number of Departmental positions including staff assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

* * * * *

Steve Washenko was recently appointed as **AGRICULTURAL OFFICER TO HONG KONG**. Washenko replaces John R. Wenmols who has been reassigned to Vienna. Washenko has been with the USDA as an agricultural economist since 1960. As agricultural officer in Hong Kong, Washenko's primary responsibility will be to expand the Hong Kong market for U.S. farm imports. Hong Kong is the second largest dollar market for U.S. farm products in the Far East. The country annually imports from the United States about \$60 million worth of food, beverages, and agricultural raw materials, over 14 percent of Hong Kong's total agricultural imports. Principal agricultural imports from the United States include cotton, fruits and vegetables, tobacco, animal and vegetable fats and oils, and meat and meat preparations.

* * * * *

Joseph T. McDavid, former newspaper and wire service reporter, has been **NAMED PRESS CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT**, succeeding Harry P. Clark, Jr., who has retired. McDavid worked briefly for the Athens (Ga.) Banner-Herald and was a correspondent for United Press International for 12 years in Memphis, Tenn., before joining USDA's information staff in 1962. He was in charge of rural areas development information activities before his present appointment.

* * * * *

Secretary Freeman recently appointed **ROBERT G. TELLEZ OF MESQUITE** to the New Mexico Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) State Committee. Tellez succeeds Gilbert Gomez of Hagerman. ASC State Committeemen are responsible for the State administration of such farm action programs as the Agricultural Conservation Program, price supports, acreage allotments and marketing quotas, the feed grain program, the voluntary wheat program, farm storage facility loans, and related activities.



Bert E. Holtby (left), personnel management specialist, shows his boss, Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff, the National Society for Programmed Instruction Award for "OUTSTANDING PUBLIC ORGANIZATION" which he accepted on behalf of the Forest Service.



GERALD FRANKS (right) is presented certificate of appreciation by Joseph Price, executive vice president of the Texas Cotton Ginners Association.



Dr. George W. Irving, Jr. (left), ARS administrator, presents the ATWATER MEMORIAL PLAQUE to Dr. Artturi I. Virtanen, director of the Biochemical Institute, Helsinki, Finland.

AWARDS

The National Society of Programmed Instruction this year has selected the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, to receive the **OUTSTANDING PUBLIC ORGANIZATION AWARD**. This award recognizes the agency or educational institution which, through team effort, has made the greatest contribution to advancing or applying instructional technology. The citation engraved on the plaque states that Forest Service "standards of excellence in the use and promotion of innovations in programmed instruction are a model for training programs."

* * * * *

GERALD N. FRANKS, Agricultural Research Service engineer, was recently awarded the first certificate of appreciation ever given by the Texas Cotton Ginners Association for contributions to ginning technology through improved machinery. Franks is recognized as an expert on cotton ginning and related processes. He is a project leader at the U.S. Cotton Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., heading up research on the development, improvement, and more effective use of equipment. Franks is author or coauthor of 17 publications. Other honors he has received include a cash award in 1959, for "sustained above-average work performance," and a Superior Service Award in 1964.

* * * * *

Miss Mary L. Rollins, ARS, New Orleans, La., has been elected a **FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE**. Miss Rollins is head of microscopy investigations, Cotton Physical Properties Laboratory, at the Southern Utilization Research and Development Division.

Agri Briefs

Dr. Artturi I. Virtanen, Nobel prize-winning Finnish chemist, recently **PRESENTED THE ATWATER MEMORIAL LECTURE** at the annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology at Atlantic City, N.J. He spoke about nutritional problems of the present time. The lecture honors USDA's first chief of human nutrition research, Dr. Wilbur O. Atwater, and is sponsored by the Agricultural Research Service. Dr. Virtanen has directed much of his research toward improving human nutrition.

* * * * *

A new outbreak, after more than 5 years, of the crop-destroying desert locust in Ethiopia, was reported in late April. USDA and the Agency for International Development are responding by sending Agricultural Research Service entomologist **GEORGE CAVIN TO ETHIOPIA** to survey infestation extent and to recommend control measures. Uncontrolled, these locusts could damage crops throughout East Africa and the Middle East.

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXVII NO. 13
July 4, 1968

SF-57—SO LONG— IT'S BEEN GOOD TO KNOW YOU

Remember what a chore it was to complete the Application for Federal Employment—the old SF-57? Think of the number of files that are jammed with these applications. Well, the Civil Service Commission has done something about it. On July 1, the old SF-57 fell by the wayside. In its place there is a new job application card form (SF-170).

Short and easy to complete, the SF-170 provides only enough information for a Federal employer to decide whether he wants to know more about a particular applicant. And matching qualified applicants to jobs should be easier. If interested, the employer will ask the applicant to complete a Personal Qualifications Statement (SF-171) that is an improved version of the old SF-57.

The SF-171 will serve two purposes. The first is for selection and appointment decisions where people already have eligibility. It is expected that applicants who have passed the appropriate tests and employees looking for advancement will, as a general rule, be asked to submit SF-171 only when they are definitely being considered for a job.

Secondly, the Personal Qualifications Statement will serve as an "unassembled" examination paper for applicants in fields where no written test is required, and where rating and eligibility are determined by an evaluation of education and experience.

Together, Standard Forms 170 and 171 will meet all the needs previously met by Form 57—and do the job more efficiently and more economically.

The Commission expects that the new forms will significantly reduce the man-hours spent in filling out applications at one end of the employment line and screening them at the other.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's July list. Plentifuls are: *eggs, turkeys, summer vegetables, watermelons, peaches, plums, and vegetable fats and oils.*



Senator Allen J. Ellender, Louisiana, chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and Secretary Freeman examine a copy of the ORIGINAL AA ACT. It was part of a commemorative display in Washington, D.C.

TRIPLE-A MARKS 35TH YEAR

Excerpts of remarks by Secretary Freeman at the Des Moines, Iowa, ceremony marking the 35th year of national farm legislation and honoring Triple-A personnel, Wednesday, May 15, 1968.

"... In 1933, the Agricultural Adjustment Act became law on Friday, May 12. And that night—and over the weekend—Secretary Wallace met with farm leaders to get the programs on the road.

"Quite simply, the Act's intent and purpose was adjustment—to remove the surpluses and to restore farm purchasing power by adjusting production to effective demand. Acreage adjustment programs were based on voluntary agreements with producers. Direct payments were authorized for participation in the programs. The designated basic crops in 1933 were wheat, cotton, field corn, hogs, rice, tobacco, and milk and its products.

"The legislation and the Triple-A programs relied on cooperative and democratic processes. They still do. The only way farmers can get—and keep—a balanced production, a shared fair return, and a richer life is to do the job themselves, to hold together, and to stick with programs that give results."

OPPORTUNITY LOANS PASS \$100 MILLION

The Nation's antipoverty campaign is benefiting more than 339,000 low-income rural people through 55,069 economic opportunity loans advanced by the Farmers Home Administration.

And more than \$104.5 million in loans has been advanced by the USDA agency to individual farmers and other rural residents as well as to groups of low-income farmers since the program began in 1965.

Most of the loans went to develop individual income-producing business enterprises in rural areas and to help strengthen small farms. Through March 31, 1968, the agency had advanced 53,924 loans to individuals totaling \$91,620,029.

Another 1,145 EO loans totaling \$12,902,869 were used to finance small co-operatives owned and operated by low-income tenant and other small farm operators.

According to a recent study by FHA, the average individual borrower showed an annual gross income increase of about \$1,270.

Imported Meats Inspected, Too

Department meat inspectors refused entry of about 408,000 pounds of imported meat during a recent week because it failed to meet inspection standards.

Shipments to the United States from eight countries consisted mostly of canned hams, pork roll, and boneless beef and mutton. Reasons for the rejections included dented cans, leaking containers, or evidence of contamination or defects in the shipments.

At U.S. ports, Consumer and Marketing Service inspectors check the imported products to see that they equal standards of wholesomeness and composition as meat products produced in the United States under Federal inspection.

The bulk of the imported meat measures up to U.S. inspection standards, since it must be produced under a USDA-approved foreign inspection system in order to be imported.



NEW ARS LABORATORY at Columbia, Mo. Greenhouses with insectary are in left foreground. Main laboratory building is in right foreground.

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR VACATION TIME?

In a recent study by the Economic Research Service, vacationers from Ohio and surrounding States were asked what kind of outdoor recreation they and their families enjoyed and how often they participated in this activity. Total participation in all outdoor activities by all in the survey averaged about 44½ days a year per person.

The most popular activities in terms of the number of persons participating were swimming, sightseeing, and picnicking.

Golf and horseback riding were also important. Although not as many people participate in these activities, they do so more often. Only 11.5 percent of those canvassed were golfers, but they averaged 19 days a year on the links. The picnickers, by contrast, ate in the open something less than 9 days a year.

Location was important to the success of some enterprises. Over half the outdoor activities took place within 20 miles of the participants' homes.

Activities that drew people from the longest distances were camping, hunting, and sightseeing. Swimming and ice skating had the least drawing power in terms of distance.

The kind of facility that appeals depends in good measure on the education, occupation, age, and income of the family members.

Education. The man who pursues outdoor recreation averages slightly better than a high school education.

Higher education levels are associated with golf, skiing—including water skiing—and ice skating. People with less education tend to fish, hunt, picnic, and camp.

Occupation. The most avid outdoor recreation fan is a salesman. He ranks high in his interest in all outdoor activities, but especially in water skiing. His interest runs lowest in riding, camping,



and ice skating.

Professional people are apt to be most interested in ice skating and golf, and least interested in fishing, hunting, and picnicking.

Managers, proprietors, and officials—such as buyers, inspectors, and postmasters—have more than average interest in riding, about the average interest in swimming, and less than the average taste for fishing, hunting, skiing of either type, skin diving, or picnicking.

Clerks like everything; they are well represented in all types of outdoor recreation. They rank especially high in riding, skin diving, and skiing.

Craftsmen favor hunting, camping, and fishing. But their interest in other forms of outdoor recreation dwindles rapidly.

Service personnel rate fishing tops, picnicking so-so, and are not much interested in the rest of the list.

Age. The younger respondents liked to ice skate, swim, snow, and water ski. The middle age tastes ran to ice skating, riding, and swimming. Older people opted for golf, hunting, fishing, and sightseeing.

Family income. The higher the income, the higher the interest in outdoor recrea-

ARS Dedicates Biological Lab

The Agricultural Research Service recently dedicated a new laboratory for research on nonchemical control of insects.

The new facility, called the Biological Control of Insects Research Laboratory, is located on the University of Missouri's Columbia campus. ARS scientists will cooperate with the university on research and educational programs of mutual interest.

The new laboratory is the only one of its kind in the Midwest. Its scientists will determine if various Midwestern environmental conditions are suitable for the release of promising insect predators and parasites from other regions. Research on this approach to pest control has been concentrated at two ARS laboratories in California and New Jersey and at the California Agricultural Experiment Station. Most of the explorations for new insect predators and parasites are directed from ARS laboratories in Italy, France, and Argentina.

Although not yet fully staffed, the new laboratory is already studying the potential for biological control of insects that attack cabbage and other cole crops.

About 5 million tiny wasps are being produced daily at the laboratory. These will be tested locally against the cabbage butterfly. ARS scientists elsewhere will also test the wasps on codling moth, cotton bollworm, and sugarcane borer. The wasps are harmless to man.

Scientists also have begun a study of natural enemies of armyworms, cutworms, and horn flies.

The USDA will help landowners and operators in the CLINTON COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF MISSOURI plan and apply conservation measures under an agreement signed recently by the Secretary. The 160,640-acre district is headquartered at Plattsburg. It includes the townships of Lafayette, Platte, Shoal, Lathrop, and Jackson. Missouri has 84 conservation districts that cover more than 72 percent of the State.

tion—up to a point. And the point is about \$12,000 a year. After that participation begins to fall off.

Not surprisingly, the lower income families in the survey participate in the low-cost activities such as picnicking and fishing. The middle income groups go in for water and snow skiing and boating. And the higher income families pursue such moderately costly activities as golf and ice skating.

CHANGES ARE MADE IN SOME SRS REPORTS

As of June 1, 1968, the first estimates of hog and pig numbers for all 50 States were published. Formerly called Pig Crop Report, the report's name has been changed to Hogs and Pigs.

Estimates are being made of the number of animals kept for breeding and of those intended for market. Estimates on monthly farrowings have been discontinued for the United States, the 10 major producing States, and the different regions.

The report continues to show sow farrowings, pigs per litter, and total pig crop by 6-month periods. Also, the 6-month estimates of sow farrowings will continue to be separated quarterly—December–February, March–May, June–August, and September–November.

Four other SRS reports have been, or are being, discontinued: The June 1 production forecast of all spring wheat; the July orchardgrass seed production forecast; the July report on the number of chickens raised; and the September Honey Report.

The July 1 forecast of all spring wheat will appear as usual in the Crop Production Report scheduled for release July 10.

Three surveys of retail seed prices, formerly conducted by SRS in February, March, and May, have also been eliminated. Others in April and September are being continued to provide information for the spring and fall seeding seasons. Results of retail seed price surveys are published seasonally in *Agricultural Prices*, an SRS monthly report.

Estimates of chickens raised will be carried in the annual publication, "Chicken and Egg Production, Disposition, Cash Receipts, and Gross Income," to be issued in April 1969. Users of estimates previously published in July may get a reasonable indication of chickens raised regionally and nationally by consulting the monthly SRS reports on the number of egg-type chicks hatched.

Travel Club Tours

USDA Travel Club tours scheduled for August include: Nova Scotia; Wayside Theatre; shopper's special—Hagerstown; Gettysburg–Allenberry; concert–dinner at Columbia, Md.; pony roundup at Chincoteague; weekend at beach for sun-lovers.

For information about club tours or membership applications, contact Mrs. Betty Brooks, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066 S. Bldg., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.



Forest Service employees in action in FIELD ACTIVITIES INVOLVING RESEARCH (genetics, firefighting, and disease control).

Forest Service Marks Anniversary That Sparked 40 Years of Research

This year marks the 40th anniversary of one of the most far-reaching pieces of natural resource legislation in the history of the Nation: the McSweeney-McNary Act of 1928.

As a result of the Act, better trees are grown; fewer forests are destroyed by fire, insects, and disease; many new or improved timber products are being used; forest recreation resources are scientifically managed; the Nation's fish and wildlife are better able to survive; cattle and sheep on forest-related ranges produce more meat; and water reaching the populated areas from forest lands is cleaner and more abundant. The Nation even knows now how much wood it has and how much it needs for the future.

The Act helped make all this possible by providing national guidelines for research which would benefit 770 million acres of forests and more than 325 million acres of forest-related rangelands in the United States.

Through the McSweeney-McNary Act, the Forest Service was given the leadership in forestry research. The Act clearly spelled out that the proposed research should be equally applicable to State and private lands, as well as to the National Forests. It specified that research should deal with problems of farm woodlots and "those abandoned areas not suitable for agricultural production."

It called for the establishment of forest experiment stations across the Nation, a system which now includes 8 regional stations, a national Forest Products Laboratory, and institutes of forestry research in Alaska, the Pacific Islands, and Puerto Rico. State agencies, universities, private industries, and other organizations have also joined the forest and range research effort as a result of the Act.

Forestry research had been carried on by the Forest Service and others before this date, but the Act gave direction to its development and broadened its scope to cover all the Nation's forestry problems.

Says Dr. George M. Jemison, deputy chief of the Forest Service in charge of research, "Neutron probes, computers, infra-red sensors, radar—yes and even space orbiting satellites—are the tools of forestry researchers these days."

The achievements benefiting the Nation's 200 million people have been dramatic.

Scientists have found that more water for human use can be tapped from forest lands by manipulating vegetation and by treatments which slow the melt of snowpacks.

Research discoveries have proved that greater health and vigor can be bred into trees.

Research paved the way for one of the fastest growing industries in the Nation—manufacture of southern pine plywood—thereby providing many jobs for rural residents.

Research designed new aerial logging systems that made possible the harvesting of timber from inaccessible mountain areas.

Research developed cloud-seeding techniques which prevent as much as one-third of the cloud-to-ground lightning strikes—one of the most frequent causes of forest fires in the western United States.

Research has even discovered a way to synthesize sex attractants of some forest destroying insects, so they can be lured to their death before they cause major damage.

Agri Briefs

Three Soil Conservation Service short-term consultants for the four-man resident USDA RICE PRODUCTION TEAM IN SENEGAL left in April to help prepare rice demonstrations for the June planting season. Federal Extension Service marketing economist Stanley Wills also arrived there in April to help the Senegalese Government establish a price program for rice, and storage, processing, and transportation facilities to help move rice from producers to the Dakar market. Making up the SCS team are agronomist Charles Hood, irrigation engineer Lloyd Signell, and soil scientist Bertram Baker. Main focus for the team will be soil management, fertilizer use, irrigation, and drainage.

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE VETERAN RUSSELL GREGG (Nepal, Tunisia, Haiti, Guyana) left in April for the Gambia, first U.S. technician of any kind to that nation. Serving as an agricultural advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, Gregg will help set up programs to train farmers to use ox-power. Traditionally, farmers have used hand hoes for cultivation. The Gambia is nearly self-sufficient in basic food crops—corn, millet, and sorghum but annually imports about 10,000 metric tons of milled rice. The land is suited to rice production (about 37,000 metric tons are produced yearly); oxen would be an important technological advance for rice production.

BOLL WEEVIL NUMBERS AT THE START OF THE 1968 CROP SEASON ARE LOWER than in 1967 in areas surveyed in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and North and South Carolina. Surface woods trash near cotton fields in typical areas of the Cotton Belt is collected and examined each fall for numbers of boll weevils entering hibernation. The following spring, entomologists of the States and USDA's Agricultural Research Service go back to those areas and estimate the numbers of weevils that have survived the winter.

The Cooperative Extension Service has about 35 recreation specialists and 26 wildlife specialists working full-time throughout the country in OUTDOOR RECREATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES. These specialists cooperate with Federal and State agencies to coordinate and initiate special planning and training meetings and workshops on recreation. In addition to helping develop new recreational enterprises, extension specialists are currently assisting almost 20,000 people improve and expand their existing recreation businesses.



Tuolumne and Stanislaus, Calif., TAP members tour shop area at FIVE MILE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER, and visit educational building at center (below).



Tuolumne County TAP Members Plan Job Corps Recruitment Drive

Members of the newly organized Tuolumne County Technical Action Panel (TAP) met recently at the Five Mile Civilian Conservation Center, 10 miles out of Sonora, Calif., in the Stanislaus National Forest, to plan a Job Corps recruitment drive throughout the county. Executive committee members toured the center, lunched with the Corpsmen, and visited classes, barracks, and shops.

Chairman of the Tuolumne County TAP is *Harry D. Grace* (Forest Service), supervisor of the Stanislaus National Forest. Executive committee members attending the meeting included *William D. Troth*, Farmers Home Administration, Modesto; *Ted Cherron*, Soil Conservation Service, Jackson; *Harry Hinkley*, Agricultural Extension Service, Sonora; and *Lester Prater*, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Stockton.

Jack Amundsen, Tuolumne County ranger, California Division of Forestry, Sonora, attended the meeting as a TAP member. Also present as guests were members of the Stanislaus County TAP of which *Merle Mensinger* is State chairman.

APPOINTMENTS

Two new members were named recently to the ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MULTIPLE USE OF THE NATIONAL FORESTS.

Appointed for 2-year terms were Dr. John Hernandez, associate professor of civil engineering, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces; and Mrs. Maxine C. Johnson, assistant director, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of Montana, Missoula.

They succeed Dr. William E. Morgan, Fort Collins, Colo., and Mrs. Robert T. Platt II, Portland, Oreg., whose terms have expired.

The 15-member committee was formed in 1961 to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on policy and procedures in protection, development, and multiple use of the National Forests, which are under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The committee is made up of members representing different parts of the Nation and a wide range of occupations.

The committee also helps create a better understanding of multiple-use activities of the National Forest including wilderness, water, timber, fish and wildlife, recreation, mining, and livestock grazing.

GLENN G. BROWNE, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF THE FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION and director of Land Bank Service in Washington, D.C., was recently elected fiscal agent for the Farm Credit Banks of the United States.

As fiscal agent, Browne will have primary responsibility for arranging the marketing of farm credit banks' bonds and debentures to investors. These are securities of the Federal land banks, Federal intermediate credit banks, and banks for cooperatives. The fiscal agency which Browne heads sold \$9 billion of the securities in 1967.

With a nationwide system of 459 production credit associations and 686 Federal land bank associations, the banks make loans to farmers and their marketing and supply cooperatives.

Browne was head of the service in FCA which supervises the 12 Federal land banks and affiliated Federal land bank associations through which farmers obtain long-term mortgage loans.

Thomas E. Street was recently named AGRICULTURAL ATTACHÉ TO PARIS, replacing Paul E. Quintus who is being reassigned to Washington, D.C.

Street's primary responsibility in Paris will be to encourage the increase of U.S. exports to France. France imports about \$205 million worth of U.S. farm products annually, mainly oilseed, oilseed products, corn, cotton, and variety meats. France exports to the U.S. About \$62 million worth of agricultural products per year, with wine accounting for half the total.

Street, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, has served as deputy assistant administrator for Export Programs for the Foreign Agricultural Service since 1965.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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Airborne Buckets for Forest Fires Used for Fires of War

Six 450-gallon fiberglass "buckets," designed to be filled and emptied from hovering helicopters, have been shipped to South Vietnam for use in putting out structural fires caused by rocket attacks and other fighting in Saigon.

The big water containers were developed in a joint effort by fire control and research personnel of the Forest Service to fight Pacific Northwest forest fires.

A member of the Fire Research Division staff, *Craig Chandler*, of Washington, D.C., is in Saigon assisting with initial planning and organization. Helicopter pilot *Lawrence H. Johnson* of Troutdale, Oreg., and Helitack specialist *Donald C. Biedebach* of Pearblossom, Calif., also Forest Service employees, are furnishing technical advice and training to Army personnel.

In fighting fires in the forest, the bucket is slung beneath a helicopter which hovers over a river, lake, or any other open water while the container tips and fills in a matter of seconds. Then, the 'copter speeds to the fire and releases the water on target. When natural water sources are not available, open top tanks or collapsible water reservoirs can be set up close to a fire.

Methods will be much the same in using the firefighting device in Saigon, where the Saigon River is no farther than 90 seconds away by helicopter from any area of the city.

The idea to use the forest firefighting device to battle war-caused fires in Saigon was that of *Barry K. Flamm*, chief of the Forest Service team in South Vietnam. He was familiar with the use of the buckets in the Northwest fires, so he asked for more details from *Kenneth O. Wilson*, chief of the Forest Service's Division of Fire Control for the Pacific Northwest Region, and *William C. Wood*, Forest Service equipment specialist in Portland, Oreg., who was instrumental in developing the techniques.

In making the request, Flamm pointed out that the Saigon city firefighting equipment was inadequate to cope with fires during the Tet offensive and subsequent fierce shelling of the capital. He



A Forest Service helicopter FIRE BUCKET IS LOWERED for filling in the Pacific Northwest.

said thousands of civilians had been left homeless by the fires.

After getting details, Flamm requested the six buckets for use in Saigon. An Oregon manufacturer worked night and day to build the molded, reinforced containers. They were then flown by the Forest Service to Travis Air Force Base in California for military shipment to Saigon.

The buckets are equipped for immediate operation on U.S. Army HU-1 helicopters. They have electrically operated discharge doors which allow varying amounts of water to be released at the desire of the pilot. They also contain plastic plugs which may be removed to allow the bucket to be used by smaller helicopters.

Merle Lowden, the Forest Service's national chief of fire control, says he thinks the helicopter and its bucket will work well in putting out Saigon fires because of their proved efficiency in combatting forest fires. He noted that during the 1967 fire season, 'copters dropped more than 400,000 gallons of water or retardant on forest fires.

Every year at least 130 million Americans are on the move in search of PLACES TO PLAY and to enjoy fresh air and sunshine.

FARM EXPORTS PASS \$100 BILLION MARK

The value of U.S. farm exports since the end of World War II surpassed the \$100 billion mark during fiscal year 1968.

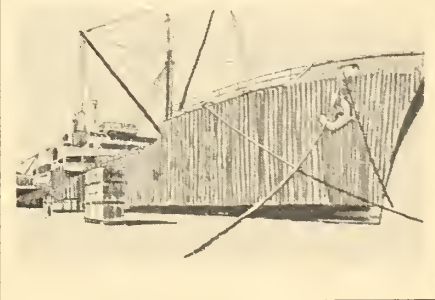
For the fifth straight season farm exports have remained well above the \$6 billion-a-year mark, an export goal never before attained by American agriculture.

Estimates for the fiscal year that ended June 30 place the value of fiscal year 1968 agricultural exports at \$6.4 billion.

Increased dollar sales of farm products have been the key to attaining the \$100 billion level. For the third straight year they have reached almost \$5 billion or better.

Each year since 1960, the European Economic Community alone has brought more than \$1 billion worth of U.S. farm products. And Japan has become the largest single-nation customer, taking close to \$1 billion annually in the past few years.

Leading agricultural products exported since World War II have been wheat, cotton, feed grains, oilseeds, tobacco, and rice. Wheat and flour together have accounted for a fifth of the total.



USDA Travel Club Tours

Tours scheduled for September: Historic New England; the great Smokies; Miss America Pageant-Smithville; Baltimore, Md.; Bucks County, Pa.

For information contact, *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

SECRETARY FREEMAN REPORTS 1967 AS A MOMENTOUS YEAR FOR USDA

"When 1967 is reviewed in the context of agricultural history a decade or so from now, it may well be regarded as the year in which the Department of Agriculture entered fully upon a new era," Secretary Freeman says in his Annual Report for 1967, entitled *Agriculture/2000*.

The report details some of the progress made in 1967 toward the six major missions or goals of the Department.

THE FIRST GOAL: *Income and Abundance*—"Realized net farm income was about \$14.5 billion in 1967," the report states. Except for the 1966 figure of \$16.4 billion, the 1967 return was the highest since 1951. Net income realized per farm in 1967 was \$4,576.

The new farm programs provided by the Emergency Feed Grain Act of 1961 and the Food and Agriculture Acts of 1961 through 1965 not only resulted in improved farm income, "they also reversed the rising trend of surpluses," the report states.

"The wheat carryover which had climbed to 1.4 billion bushels in 1961 was down to 426 million bushels on July 1, 1967.

"The feed grain carryover which had soared to 85 million tons was only 37 million tons on October 1, 1967 . . .

"The inventory of commodities *owned* by the Commodity Credit Corporation has dropped from over 6 billion to less than 1 billion, the lowest since 1952."

THE SECOND GOAL: *Growing Nations-New Markets*—Total agricultural exports reached an all-time high of \$6.3 billion in fiscal 1967. Sales for dollars totaled \$5.2 billion. For the calendar year, exports totaled \$6.4 billion, the second highest on record.

"Nations that depended chiefly on food assistance are now able to turn increasingly to trade to meet their needs," the report points out.

During 1967 some 20 developing nations received food aid under specific "self-help" agreements.

"Starting from a decidedly bleak outlook in 1966, the world food situation was much improved by the end of 1967," according to the Secretary's report. "It was not only a year of record agricultural production for the world, but most significantly a banner year for the less developed countries . . .

"The world food problem is far from solved. But the edge of the impending crisis has been blunted at least temporarily."

THE THIRD GOAL: *Communities of Tomorrow*—"We are seeking to restore rural-urban balance in America through

increased opportunity in rural communities, and a good start has been made," Secretary Freeman says.

He cites the following achievements during 1967:

- More than \$560 million in farm ownership and farm operating loans was advanced through Farmers Home Administration—plus \$442 million in loans for building or improving 49,000 rural dwellings—plus almost \$200 million to build or develop modern water and sewer systems in 1,100 rural communities.

- Rural Electrification Administration borrowers helped set up 616 projects to establish new small industries, new commodity facilities, and new tourist attractions, thus creating an estimated 34,000 jobs.

- Economic development projects established with Extension Service helped provide an estimated 52,000 new jobs.

- The Forest Service operated 47 Civilian Conservation Centers with an enrollment of 8,400.

- The Soil Conservation Service provided jobs for 1,700 youths in its special programs and regular field operations."

THE FOURTH GOAL: *Resources in Action*—Department conservation programs, the report says, "are giving extra emphasis to the multi-county development of all natural resources. They are offering far more services to low-income and small farmers and to rural communities. Outdoor recreation, natural beauty, and wildlife are receiving great attention in agriculture, forestry, and watershed programs."

During fiscal 1967, the Soil Conservation Service helped 1,170,000 landowners and operators plan and apply conservation work. The Agricultural Conservation Program assisted more than 1 million farmers and ranchers with cost-sharing aid.

Under direction of the Forest Service, 10.8 billion board feet of timber was harvested from the National Forests, over 1 billion small trees were planted on public and privately owned lands, and 150 million visitor days for recreation in the National Forests were recorded.

The USDA is stressing coordination of conservation with economic development through multi-county resources conservation and development projects. At the end of 1967, 28 such projects were in operation with 13 others moving rapidly toward that stage.

THE FIFTH GOAL: *Science in the Service of Man*—Among the developments in agricultural research in 1967 were a tasteless, colorless fat from cottonseed oil which may change the pack-

aging of nuts, meats, and other foods; conversion of soybean and linseed oil derivatives into a new rough material for making adhesives, films, and plastics; a new way to process tomatoes to almost any consistency from thin juice to a firm gel; a new process which makes cotton stretch fabrics stronger and less expensive; a chemical treatment for permanent press garments that may double the durability of the fabric; and a process for making nylon from soybean oil.

THE SIXTH GOAL: *New Dimensions for Living*—Abundance was widely shared in a continuing effort to improve nutrition for the young and needy. The report notes that:

- At year-end school lunches were being served to 19.5 million children—5 million more than 1961—and 2.5 million children were being served free. Under the Child Nutrition Act, 80,000 undernourished youngsters were getting good breakfasts daily.

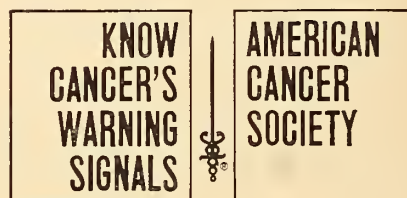
- About 2.2 million persons in 848 areas of 41 States and the District of Columbia were participating in the Food Stamp Program—compared with 1.3 million persons in 477 areas a year earlier.

- Nearly 3.3 million needy persons in about 1,300 counties were participating in the direct food distribution program. They received 14 foods, including meat, cheese, and butter, compared with only five commodities in early 1961.

The report points out that the percentage of disposable income spent for food in 1967 "dropped to a new low of about 17.7 percent compared with 18 percent in 1966, 20 percent in 1960, and 26 percent in 1947."

Pointing out that meat and poultry inspectors assured the wholesomeness of more than 84 billion pounds of meat and poultry products, and that USDA food specialists certified the quality of more than 580 billion pounds of food and fiber in fiscal 1967, the Secretary said:

"In expanding dimensions for living we are concerned not only with nutrition but with the safety of the Nation's food supply. The Wholesome Meat Act enacted in 1967 will give further assurance to consumers that the meat they eat is safe and healthful."



Federal Crop Insurance Gives Highest Protection in Its 30 Years

More than \$900 million in farm crop production investments are protected by Federal Crop Insurance this year. It is the greatest amount of protection in the 30-year history of Federal Crop Insurance.

Cropland protected by Federal Crop Insurance increased by 2.2 million acres in 1968. About 450,000 crops on nearly 20 million acres are insured against production cost losses from natural hazards.

An estimated 83,000 farmers across the country shared in Federal Crop Insurance payments, totaling more than \$54.5 million for the 1967 crop year.

All of these indemnity payments are from premiums paid in by farmer-policyholders. A large portion of this \$54 million repayment of crop production costs went to wheat, cotton, corn, soybean, and orange growers for causes of loss ranging from an early freeze in the South to a cold, wet summer in the upper Midwest.

Federal Crop Insurance is accessible to farmers in 1,395 counties in 39 States, and is added to other counties as resources become available.

Federal Crop Insurance is a voluntary, self-help service offering the farmer crop investment protection for most of the 25 crops on which the insurance is available. Some specialty crops such as citrus, raisins, apples, and peaches are insured only against loss from particular causes such as freeze and hurricane damage.

New Process Improves Manufactured Citrus Products

A new process that may improve the flavor and aroma of citrus products—from frozen orange juice to canned grapefruit slices—has been developed by the Department.

The new process provides 5 to 10 times as much flavor essence from citrus peel and processing liquids as obtainable by other methods, reports *Dr. Mathew K. Veldhuis*, of the Agricultural Research Service.

Although the essence from the process is slightly different in character from the essence from fresh juice, it is still "an excellent flavoring agent," *Dr. Veldhuis* said.

In studies with instant orange juice, *Dr. Veldhuis* said that adding orange essence, as well as "locked in" orange oil, resulted in improved flavor.

The new process also reduces a waste disposal problem in citrus processing plants, he said.



A USDA QUARANTINE INSPECTOR discovers a foreign insect that flew into the baggage compartment abroad, rode at jet speed to the United States, and then hid under luggage straps. The hitchhiking pest was identified as a relative of the Japanese beetle—destroyer of crops, lawns, and ornamental shrubs—and is considered to be equally destructive. USDA inspectors often intercept this species more than a dozen times during the year.

CHEMIST NAMED A DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

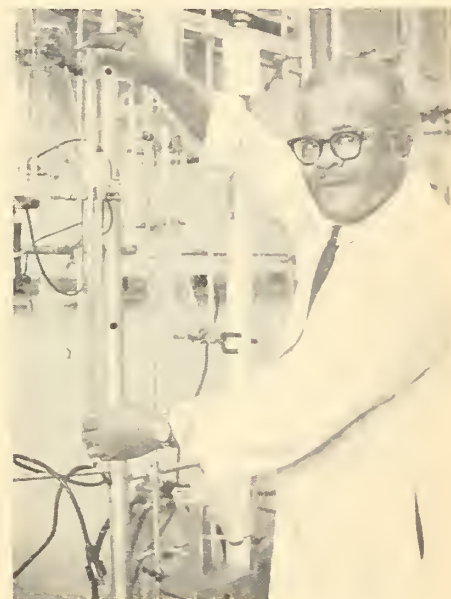
A USDA chemist and civic leader, *Joseph E. Cooper*, is one of three interim directors of a newly chartered organization designed to improve relations between the races and provide new opportunities for disadvantaged residents of his south Philadelphia community.

Cooper, a graduate in chemistry from Lincoln University in 1949 and holder of a Fels Institute scholarship in government administration at the University of Pennsylvania, does research on tobacco at the Agricultural Research Service's eastern utilization research laboratory. In addition to this, he is studying the administration of governmental research, based on the operations of the laboratory where he works. He plans to do a master's thesis on this study at the University of Pennsylvania.

Cooper is chairman of the Education Committee of the Southwest Center City Community Council and chairman of the Relevant Educational Schools Community Union (RESCU). He has addressed junior and senior high school groups in the city, reviewing for them the important place of the Negro in American and world history, and impressing upon them the necessity of staying in school to obtain a good education so that they can make a significant contribution to the culture of their day.

The new organization Cooper helped found is the South Philadelphia Community Development Corporation. SPCDC consists of business, medical, and educational institutions; community and civic groups; and individual citizens in that part of the city south of Market Street between the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

SPCDC will be active in four areas: Housing and physical environment, manpower and job development, health and social services, and education.



USDA Chemist Joseph E. Cooper

In housing, SPCDC will seek money for financing new construction or the rehabilitation of old structures.

In employment, it will coordinate various organizations currently engaged in job listing and manpower training.

In health and social services, it will coordinate the efforts of the area's medical institutions to attract increased amounts of outside funds, and will also critically evaluate presently available social services and plan for needed new services, such as day care for children of working mothers or programs in home-making education.

In education, SPCDC will work with area schools in developing training programs, in encouraging greater use of student teachers, in improving the school facilities, and in organizing presentations at junior and senior high schools to encourage students to stay in school.

Work on the process was done by *Dr. Veldhuis* and coworkers *Dr. Robert E. Berry*, *Charles J. Wagner, Jr.*, and *Dr.*

Eric Lund, all at the ARS Fruit and Vegetable Products Laboratory, Winter Haven, Fla.

SCIENTIST DEFIES DEAFNESS TO EARN Ph.D. DEGREE

Earning a postgraduate degree by 6 years of night-school study while working and raising a family is no mean accomplishment for any man. And when the man has been totally deaf since childhood, it represents a special kind of fortitude and perseverance.

Such has been the handicap overcome by *Jay J. Basch*, an Agricultural Research Service scientist, who this June stepped forward at the Temple University commencement in Philadelphia, Pa., to receive his Ph.D. degree in chemistry.

After special preschool training that began at age 3, Basch went to the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf in Mt. Airy, from which he graduated with top honors in 1948. Following 3 years of high school at Friends Select School, he enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania. There he majored in zoology with a minor in chemistry, receiving his B.A. degree in 1956. His excellent school grades and his skill in lip reading helped him to get a research staff position with the ARS laboratory in Wyndmoor, Pa., in July of that year. He was assigned to do research on the proteins of milk with *Dr. William G. Gordon*.

The year after he began work, he enrolled at the Drexel Institute of Technology, where he was granted an M.S. degree in chemistry in 1960. In 1962 he began studies which culminated in his doctorate. The research for his doctoral dissertation was carried out under the guidance of *Dr. Serge N. Timasheff*, an ARS scientist now doing research at Brandeis University.

Dr. Basch's doctoral thesis on beta-lactoglobulin, one of the proteins of whey, is one of 20 publications he has coauthored. In addition to his work with Dr. Timasheff, Dr. Basch has collaborated with Dr. Gordon and other scientists of the laboratory on fundamental studies of casein and other milk proteins.

Study and research in chemistry have not taken all of Dr. Basch's time, however. He is also studying electronics by correspondence. He has almost completed the construction of his own radio and looks forward to making a color television set. He is also a sports enthusiast, a good basketball player, and a strong swimmer.

The increasing use of the 154 NATIONAL FORESTS and 19 NATIONAL GRASSLANDS makes them the Nation's major outdoor playground.



The GREATER KANSAS CITY USDA CLUB recently presented scholarships to four 4-H members. At a special awards ceremony, USDA Personnel Director Carl B. Barnes (above) made presentations to three of the young ladies selected as most deserving of special recognition in agriculture by the Extension agent in each county surrounding Kansas City. Left to right: Kathy Noland, Clay County, Mo.; Barbara Healy, Johnson County, Kans.; and Sharon L. Kushner, Wyandotte County, Kans. Teresa Meinershagen, Jackson County, Mo., was absent.

SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM REACHES ISOLATED ISLAND

The residents of Daufuskie Island are apt to agree about at least one thing—the importance of school feeding.

A small island off the South Carolina coast in Beaufort County, Daufuskie has about 134 inhabitants, 33 of whom are school children.

At one time, the island had a booming oyster industry, but debris from Savannah, Ga., and surrounding areas has polluted the waters and killed the beds. Today, there is no industry whatsoever on the island—not even a store—and most of the families are poor.

The only way to reach the island is by boat or helicopter, and even these are useless if the weather is bad. So, the children of Daufuskie seldom have contact with the outside world, or as they call it, "out there."

In spite of this, each day every school child on Daufuskie Island eats a small breakfast and a nutritious, well-balanced lunch made possible by child nutrition programs of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

Mrs. Julia Johnson, principal and teacher in Daufuskie's two-room wooden school house, said the school food service programs have been as important to the children's education as reading and math.

"Until the lunch program was started in 1967, many of the children didn't even know how to use forks and knives," Mrs. Johnson said. "This kind of education is just as essential in getting along in the world as the book type."

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Agri Briefs

ORANGES AND GRAPEFRUIT MAY ONE DAY BE SERVED IN TABLET FORM, report Agricultural Research Service scientists who developed the tablets, a part of the program to find new uses for citrus. The tablets—eight equal one orange or about one-half a grapefruit—are lightweight, tasty, and inexpensive. They are made from orange or grapefruit crystals. The tablets, or discs, were developed at the ARS Fruit and Vegetable Laboratory at Winter Haven, Fla., during efforts to improve the solubility of the citrus crystals. The discs—about the size of a 25-cent coin—could result in new outlets for both grapefruit and oranges as nutritious confections for everyday use or even as a lightweight, compact means of supplying nutrients in citrus fruits to campers, servicemen, or astronauts.

MORE EFFECTIVE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING IS THE KEY to economic development of Latin America, according to Lester R. Brown, administrator, International Agricultural Development Service. Brown recently returned from a tour of USDA/AID projects in Brazil, Paraguay, Ecuador, and Colombia. Latin America's inadequate marketing system, further crippled by the great distance and physical obstacles between farmers and consumers, fails to give farmers incentive to increase production and does not assure consumers of steady, quality food supplies, says Brown.

ALLAN D. SHEPHERD, who conducts processing research on cereals in the Agricultural Research Service laboratory in Albany, Calif., will spend 2 years in Kenya, Africa, on a mission sponsored by the Agency for International Development. Shepherd will be part of a team developing a laboratory for studies on production and utilization of cereals—chiefly corn, sorghum, and millet. The laboratory is located in Nairobi, Kenya, but its services extend to Uganda and Tanzania.

ALL-RISK FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE will be available to farmers in four additional Texas counties for the 1969 crop year, raising to 70 the number of Texas counties where the insurance is available to farmers. An estimated \$36 million in 1968 Texas crop production expenses is protected by Federal Crop Insurance. Nearly \$2.3 million was paid to Texas farmers for 2,600 crop losses during the 1967 crop year.

DON'T LET ADVANCING YEARS CURB YOUR PHYSICAL FITNESS! The U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare now has made copies of "The Fitness Challenge . . . in Later Years—an exercise program for older Americans." For a free copy write to the Editor, USDA Employee Newsletter, Office of Information, Room 528-A, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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REA URGES THAT SYSTEMS HIRE VETERANS OF VIETNAM

The Rural Electrification Administration recently took action to help increase employment opportunity for "Vietnam era" veterans among the 1,800 rural electric and telephone systems it has financed. The systems serve eight of every 10 counties in the United States.

In a memorandum to the systems and their contractors, *Norman M. Clapp*, REA administrator, urged them to help veterans "get started in worthwhile civilian careers through special consideration of the system's hiring program, in securing other jobs, to get started in farming or business, or to enter training programs."

Pointing out that 850,000 men and women in military service will return to civilian life this year, the administrator said, "This group of courageous young Americans who have sacrificed so much must surely head the list of those deserving special consideration."

To help the systems and their contractors employ veterans, and to help them guide veterans to other jobs or training programs, Clapp attached to his memorandum a summary of public and private programs available to help returning service people find employment.

MRS. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For August 1968 ☆☆



Dr. George W. Irving, Jr. (left), Agricultural Research Service administrator, and Mrs. Freeman listen to Willie Mincey "read" signpost lettering at dedication ceremonies of the National Arboretum's TOUCH & SEE NATURE TRAIL in Washington, D.C.

A BRAILLE TRAIL—SO THAT EVERYONE MIGHT SEE

Mrs. Orville L. Freeman, wife of the Secretary of Agriculture, recently dedicated the first "touch and see" nature trail for the blind on the East Coast. And 17-year-old *Willie Mincey* of the Maryland School for the Blind responded by joining Mrs. Freeman and over 100 others in touring the trail.

The 1,600-foot nature trail is located at the Department's National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

Representatives of the Columbia Light-house for the Blind, Inc., worked with

the Department in planning the trail. Their suggestions that the trail have small, overhanging branches, an uneven path covered with leaves, and an incline were incorporated into the design.

A guide rope leads visitors past stations at which descriptions are written in braille and in English. Native plants and trees are pointed out at the stations, and visitors are invited to feel the bark, decaying matter, and the wood of a dead tree. Even the forest floor is a feature—the decaying material on the ground is food for the living plants.

Halfway through the trip is an open meadow, bounded on all sides by a gravel walk, outlining the "safe" area. There is a pond and marsh at one end of the meadow, and cattails and weeping willows growing along a stream at another end.

The Agricultural Research Service will operate the nature trail as part of its continuing responsibility for Arboretum functions.

The only other nature trail for the blind in the United States is the 600-foot Roaring Fork Blind Trail operated by USDA's Forest Service in the White River National Forest, Colorado.

Revising the numerical table of contents of a manual by inserting pen-and-ink changes is a time-consuming chore. But MRS. ELAINE G. FALK, an employee of Region IV, Office of the Inspector General, Chicago, Ill., has devised an index that SAVES auditors and investigators TIME. Under her system, the table of contents of the master manual is updated at the regional level as changes occur. Space is provided between title numbers so that additional issuances and amendments can be inserted. A photocopy of the revisions is distributed to all manual holders. Estimated savings from this cost-cutting effort are \$1,338 per year for Region IV. Savings will grow to about \$9,000 annually if adopted in all OIG regional offices. Mrs. Falk has received a \$100 cash award under the Incentive Awards Program. She is the first to be selected by the Department in a USDA COST REDUCER OF THE MONTH series.

ELECTION YEAR SERVICE: A GUIDE TO POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The Civil Service Commission provides the following guide for Federal employees subject to restrictions on partisan political activity:

- Generally, employees must not take an active part in partisan political campaigns or partisan political management.
- Specifically, an employee may not run as a candidate or actively work in a campaign if any of the candidates for the offices are nominees of a national or State political party such as the Republican or Democratic Party. The holding of an appointive position or an elective office in a State or national political party is also prohibited.
- All qualified citizens have the right to register and vote, and employees are encouraged to exercise this right of citizenship. The law also reserves to them the right to express their opinions on political questions and political candidates.
- Federal employees may take an active part in nonpartisan elections—even as candidates. (If a Federal employee wishes to serve in a State or local government position, he should check the regulations of his Federal agency regarding outside employment.)
- An employee does not violate the law by expressing his views publicly or privately about a candidate or about a political issue. However, he may not engage in active campaigning for a partisan candidate. Thus, an employee may display a political badge, button, or sticker, but he should not display political material on his person or vehicle while carrying out his duties as a government employee.
- Employees are free to express their views and take action as individuals on such questions as referendum matters, changes in municipal ordinances, and constitutional amendments.
- An employee does not violate the law by making a political contribution to a political organization. However, he is prohibited from either soliciting or collecting political contributions.
- Employees can attend political rallies and join political clubs, but they cannot take an active part in the conduct of the rally or the management of a partisan political club.
- An employee may write a letter to the editor of a local newspaper, expressing his opinion on a political issue, but he must not solicit votes for or against any partisan political party or partisan candidate.
- An employee's wife who is not herself covered by the law may engage in political activity. The law does not restrict the activities of an employee's

wife or of other members of his family in any way.

- An employee may not work as a part-time volunteer for a partisan candidate, even though his activity does not involve contact with the public. The Civil Service Commission interprets the law as prohibiting any direct action to assist a partisan candidate or political party in a campaign. Thus, a Federal employee is not permitted to do clerical work at campaign headquarters, write campaign speeches, or canvass voters for the purpose of promoting support for the candidate or political party. This includes voluntary campaign work for any partisan candidate, such as "stuffing envelopes" with campaign or political literature.
- An employee may not use his auto to take voters to the polls on election day, or lend it, or rent it for this use. However, the employee's auto may be used to transport himself and members of his family to the polls. Members of a car pool may stop at the polling place to cast their votes on the way to or from their places of employment.
- Other prohibited activities include: Soliciting or collecting of political contributions, distributing campaign material, selling dinner tickets, or otherwise promoting such activities as political dinners.
- An employee is allowed actively to assist in voter registration drives. However, he must not attempt to influence voters to register for a particular party.
- Employees may accept appointments to serve as election clerks, officers, or in similar positions as prescribed by State or local law. However, they may not work at the polls on behalf of a partisan political candidate or political party or as a checker, challenger, or watcher.
- A Federal agency may authorize limited time off for voting, chargeable to administrative leave. As a general rule, where the polls are not open at least 3 hours either before or after an employee's regular hours of work, he may be granted an amount of excused leave that will permit him to report for work 3 hours after the polls open or leave work 3 hours before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time off. If an employee's voting place is beyond normal commuting distance and vote by absentee ballot is not permitted, the employee may be granted sufficient time off to make the trip to the voting place, not to exceed a full day.
- The Civil Service Commission enforces the law for employees in the competitive service. Excepted employees are subject to the law, but their employing

REMINDER TO EMPLOYEES: New Application Form

This is just a reminder that the Application for Federal Employment is now Standard Form 170. Since July 1, this short, easy-to-complete application has been available to you when looking for a job. A longer form, SF-171, Personal Qualifications Statement, is to be used with Civil Service examinations, and when employers want more detailed information.

Most SCS Help Goes to Small or Family Farms

During fiscal year 1967, small farms and family farms made up more than 80 percent of the 1,102,040 recipients of technical assistance from the Soil Conservation Service.

Nearly 50 percent of those receiving assistance were small farms.

A study by SCS has revealed that an additional 10 percent of those assisted included zoning and planning officials concerned with land in transition from rural to suburban use, and residents using land primarily for housing. Less than 10 percent fell in the large farm category.

For purposes of the study, a small farm was defined as "one grossing less than \$10,000 per year from farming," and a family farm was "one employing less than 1½ man-years of outside labor and grossing \$10,000 to \$40,000 per year from farming." A farm with more outside labor or a higher gross than \$40,000 was classified as "large."

agencies are responsible for enforcing it.

- In addition to "Hatch Act" coverage, the criminal laws of the United States prohibit exchange of political contributions between Federal employees. The soliciting, giving, or receiving of political contributions between Federal employees or officers is subject to fine and imprisonment.
- The most severe penalty for violation of the political activity is removal. The minimum penalty is suspension without pay for no less than 30 days.
- Ignorance of the law does not excuse an employee from penalties for violation. Questions should be presented in writing to the Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D.C. 20415.

Grain Market News Headquarters Moved to Missouri

The national headquarters of the Consumer and Marketing Service's nationwide grain market news service was moved to Independence, Mo., in July.

The market news service for grain and grain products was moved from Hyattsville, Md., a suburb of Washington, to Independence as part of the Government's continuing program of decentralizing Federal activities.

The Kansas City, Mo., grain market news field office also was transferred to Independence in July in order to consolidate reporting activities in that part of the country.

The C&MS grain market news service—operated in cooperation with State departments of agriculture—provides up-to-the-minute, unbiased reports on prices paid, volume sold, and other important trading data to buyers, sellers, and others in the grain trade. These reports are flashed across the Nation through a 20,000-mile leased teletype wire network, and quickly made public by radio and television broadcasts, newspaper articles, and mailed reports to subscribers requesting the service.

The new address of the national headquarters of the news service is: Grain Market News Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Consumer and Marketing Service, Room 225 Federal Building, 301 W. Lexington, Independence, Mo., 64050. The telephone is: (Area Code 816) 833-3112. *Richard S. Cotter* remains as chief of the market news service and his assistant, *Walter T. Borg*, remains as district supervisor.

The new address of the Kansas City field office is: Room 232 Federal Building, 301 W. Lexington, Independence, Mo., 64050. The telephone is: (Area Code 816) 833-3113. *Wright Smith* continues as officer-in-charge of the office.

Connecticut recently achieved an Accredited Tuberculosis Free status by ERADICATING BOVINE TYPE TUBERCULOSIS from its cattle herds. Maine, New Hampshire, and the Virgin Islands previously attained the ultimate goal of this Federal-State cooperative effort. The program is designed to eliminate the costly disease that may be transmitted to humans. The present disease eradication effort in Connecticut is led by *Jean V. Smith*, State veterinarian, and *W. C. Ferrall*, Federal veterinarian in charge of animal health activities. Many States are within reach of qualifying for bovine tuberculosis free status. At least three-fourths of the Nation's counties have had no evidence of bovine tuberculosis for at least 6 years; more than half of these counties have had no tuberculosis reported for 12 or more years.



GERMAN OFFICIAL HOSTED—Franz Klose (right), deputy assistant secretary of the Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forest of West Germany, carries on spirited conversation with Assistant Secretary of Agriculture John Baker (left) and Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff during a recent reception in Washington, D.C. Klose was a guest of the Forest Service while he acquainted himself with tree-breeding methods, economics, and forest policy. After leaving Washington, D.C., he visited Forest Service facilities in Oregon to see Douglas fir-breeding methods which might be applicable in German forests. During 1967, the Foreign Training Unit of the Forest Service prepared or assisted in preparing 142 training programs or study tours for 309 foreign nationals from 42 countries, some sponsored by the Agency for International Development and others by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

New Geographic Indexes To Bibliography of Agriculture

The National Agricultural Library recently finished producing and compiling approximately 180,000 geographic records for years 1966 to the present. These records now are available in the reference room of the library for those who wish to follow agricultural literature by country.

Arrangement of the indexes is first by country, state, or geographic region, followed by a detailed listing of subjects accompanied by item numbers referring to the full citation listings in the *Bibliography of Agriculture*. References to North America or to the United States as a whole are generally omitted from these indexes but are listed by subject alone, without geographic tags, in the regular monthly and annually published subject indexes to the bibliography.

These geographic indexes are an example of the way in which computers can greatly increase the library's potential for providing service to the Department by manipulating already-existing machine records, a task which would be prohibitively expensive by manual methods.

The indexes may be consulted in the reference room during regular library hours.

Requests for quotation of prices for photocopying or microfilming sections of the indexes should be addressed to *Ellen Mayeux*, Division of Lending, National Agricultural Library, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Rumors Are Untrue Of Smokey's "Calling It Quits"

If Smokey Bear, the national symbol of forest fire prevention, could speak, he would probably paraphrase Mark Twain by saying rumors of his impending retirement are "greatly exaggerated." It just isn't true.

Secretary Freeman, one of Smokey's bosses, said recently that there are no current plans either to retire or replace Smokey at the Washington, D.C., National Zoo. This was corroborated by *Dr. Theodore Reed*, director of the zoo where Smokey has made his home since he was a cub in 1950.

The mistaken notion of Smokey's retirement apparently grew out of an offer that an orphaned bear cub was available if the zoo wanted it. Somehow, the idea came out in print that the cub would take the place of the full-grown black bear in the Washington Zoo.

Malcolm Hardy, chief of Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention for the Forest Service, retorted that Smokey is still healthy and strong and gives every indication of spending many years yet at the zoo with Mrs. Smokey. His long-range future, however, is under active study by the Smokey Bear Executive Committee, comprised of Federal and State foresters and the National Advertising Council.

Smokey Bear has been the symbol of forest fire prevention for 23 years, and just a few months ago, a nationwide poll showed he is one of the most popular symbols on the American scene.

The "live Smokey" was added to the promotion campaign June 30, 1950, when the cub was turned over to the zoo by *Lyle Watts*, then chief of the Forest Service. Smokey had been flown to Washington, D.C., after he was found badly singed and clinging pitifully to a burned tree snag left in the wake of a forest fire. Since then, Smokey has ranked as one of the most-visited animals at the zoo.

Health Benefits Open Season Scheduled for November 1969

The next open season for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program has been scheduled for November 10-28, 1969. There will be no open season in 1968.

During the open season in 1969, eligible employees who are not enrolled in a health benefits plan will be permitted to enroll. Employees who are already enrolled in a plan will, at that time, be allowed to change to another plan or option.

APPOINTMENTS

Secretary Freeman recently named DR. NOEL P. RALSTON to serve as deputy director of Science and Education for the Department. Dr. Ralston has been deputy administrator of the Federal Extension Service since July 1966.

Before joining USDA, Dr. Ralston was director of the Cooperative Extension Service and assistant dean of the College of Agriculture, Michigan State University, for more than 6 years. He has been active in the extension committee on organization and policy (serving as chairman in 1966), North Central Region representative for 4 years, and member of the subcommittee on conservation of natural resources.

Dr. Ralston was named a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1948, and in 1960 won the Honorary State Farmer Degree in Michigan. In 1965 he was a member of the Michigan State survey team to determine needs and organization of a land-grant university for the Government of Argentina. He also helped set up business machine records for the Michigan Dairy Herd Improvement Association.

* * * * *

FRED W. GILMORE of Omaha, Nebr., has been appointed deputy governor of the Land Bank Service of the Farm Credit Administration. Gilmore, now president and general manager of the Union Stockyards Company of Omaha, has a long background with the cooperative Land Bank System. He is returning to the position he held for 3 years ending in 1961 when he left to take his present post.

Gilmore will head the service in the FCA responsible for supervising the Cooperative Land Bank System that includes 12 Federal land banks and over 600 Federal land bank associations through which farmers obtain long-term land bank loans. Presently, about 400,000 farmer-members who have loans totaling \$5.9 billion are using this source of credit.

* * * * *

The Senate has confirmed President Johnson's appointment of J. Homer Remsberg and C. Everett Spangler to the FEDERAL FARM CREDIT BOARD for 6-year terms.

Remsberg, a Middletown, Md., dairy farmer, was nominated for the post by farmer cooperatives in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C. He replaces William T. Steele, Jr., general manager of Southern States Cooperative, Richmond, Va.

Spangler, who replaces Dr. J. B. Fuller, a farmer and veterinarian of Torrington, Wyo., operates and manages a farm near Omaha, Nebr. He was nominated by production credit associations in Nebraska, Wyoming, Iowa, and South Dakota.

Mr. Steele and Dr. Fuller, having served 6-year terms, were not eligible for reappointment.

* * * * *

I. M. DESTLER was recently named acting Asia Area Regional Coordinator for the International Agricultural Develop-



For its achievements in the OUR PART—KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL Program, the West End Boys' Club of Atlanta, Ga., recently was awarded a Keep America Beautiful gold loving cup. Here Tony Thrash, club member, accepts the highly prized trophy from Mrs. Becky Annis, Forest Service receptionist at the Atlanta regional office.

USDA SPEAKERS HIGHLIGHT INTER-AMERICAN SYMPOSIUM

More than 30 original papers on health problems associated with importing and exporting animals will be read and discussed at the "Inter-American Symposium on Health Aspects of the International Movement of Animals."

The symposium is to be held in San Antonio, Tex., August 28-30, according to the joint sponsors: The Pan American Health Organization and the Conference of Public Health Veterinarians.

The 3-day meeting, concerned with planning more effective ways of dealing with health problems created by shipping animals across national borders, is designed to make possible a real interchange between participants interested in research and diagnostic problems, food, and zoo animals.

USDA lecturers participating in the symposium will be: Dr. Robert Anderson, Agricultural Research Service; Dr. Robert Somers, Consumer and Marketing Service; and Dr. John Jefferies and Dr. Claude Smith, also of ARS.

One of two opening addresses will be given by Dr. George L. Mehren, former assistant secretary of agriculture.

ment Service. He replaces William S. Abbott who resigned last month.

Destler has been a program analyst in IADS since September 1967, specializing in review and evaluation of USDA international development programs, and drafting self-help provisions of P.L. 480 agreements to ensure that Asian countries are committed to improving their own agriculture.

Meet A Cotton Classing Officer

Dennis F. McNabb is officer-in-charge of the Cotton Division's classing office in Jackson, Miss.

Since he took over there 2 years ago, the Jackson office and two seasonal offices under his supervision have classed samples of cotton representing 750,000 bales—having an estimated value of nearly \$100 million.

McNabb joined the Cotton Division of the Consumer and Marketing Service 10 years ago, and has learned that it requires a lot of hard work and training to become a cotton classer and an officer-in-charge.

"When I graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1958, I thought my school days were over for good," he recently recounted. "But shortly after coming to work with the Cotton Division, I found myself right back in school, this time taking an intensive C&MS training course for cotton classers. I learned that becoming a cotton classer requires a keen eye, sensitive hands, and a lot of good judgment."

His twofold responsibility is to supervise cotton classers assigned to the Jackson office and to administer Cotton Division programs in his geographic area of south and central Mississippi.

Duties also take McNabb into the field to talk with ginners, farmers, cotton merchants, and agricultural leaders. These field trips also afford him the opportunity to talk with civic and trade organizations about C&MS programs.

The Jackson office which McNabb heads is similar to the 29 other permanent classing offices which C&MS operates. The main purpose of these classing offices is to help maintain an orderly and efficient marketing system for the cotton industry. To accomplish this, they class cotton for producers, merchants, mills, and other interested parties requesting the service, and provide market news on cotton prices, quality, and demand. Cotton is classed primarily for grade (including color), staple (length of fibers), and micronaire (fineness of fibers).

Last year, the Cotton Division classed 18 million bales of cotton. Dennis McNabb helped make this impossible job possible.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's September list. Plentifuls are: Milk and dairy products, peanuts and peanut products, and broiler-fryers.

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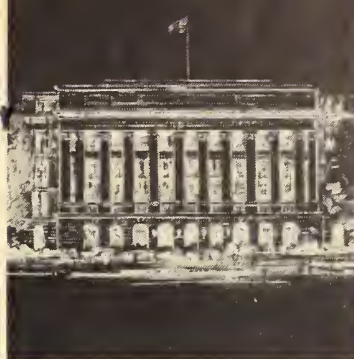
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USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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1968 HOUSING AND URBAN ACT WILL HELP RURAL PEOPLE

"The rural one-third of our population has endured half the bad housing in the country. Now we are better prepared to right this situation."

The speaker was Secretary Freeman assuring rural Americans recently that they will share fully in new community planning programs as a result of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. The Act was signed into law last month by President Johnson.

The Secretary explained that benefits of the new Act will be channeled into rural areas through the 1,600 local county offices of USDA's Farmers Home Administration, and through the rural system of Technical Action Panels.

FHA carries on rural housing programs for farmers and other people in the countryside and in towns of up to 5,500 population.

New housing services under the Act include:

INTEREST SUPPLEMENT PAYMENTS. The interest supplement plan seeks to put adequate housing within reach of low-income families by reducing their loan or rent payments. The supplement payments will be made by the Federal Government.

RURAL HOMES FOR URBAN PEOPLE. City dwellers who work in rural areas will benefit from an expanded credit program to buy or build a home nearer their job.

JOB TRAINEES. FHA will be able to extend financial and technical help to public or nonprofit organizations for housing and training facilities for use by rural people enrolled in job training.

SELF-HELP HOUSING. Financial support—including grants—is authorized to nonprofit organizations for developing and supervising "self-help" housing projects for low-income families. Loans to nonprofit agencies are also available to buy and develop land to be used as building sites.

In the "self-help" housing program, low-income families work together to construct their homes. Individual families obtain loans from the Farmers Home Administration for materials.



LEWIS KEENAN, project supervisor for the Agricultural Research Service, Bakersfield, Calif., relays late information on ground conditions to pilot of USDA plane loaded with cartons of sterilized pink bollworms.

Plan Is Begun To Eradicate Pink Bollworm in California

A low-flying USDA plane made its first flight recently in the Bakersfield, Calif., area dropping small cardboard cylinders containing sterilized pink bollworm moths.

The sterile moths are freed from the cylinders as they leave the plane. The objective is to prevent mating between native fertile moths, ultimately wiping out the pest in the area.

Because the moths mate only at night, they are being dropped in late evening. This also gives the released moths a chance to find cover to protect themselves from high daytime temperatures.

The field trial, conducted by the Agricultural Research Service and the California Department of Agriculture, is testing the efficiency of this insect control method under natural conditions.

COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANTS. Housing and Urban Development grants for comprehensive planning in multi-county rural districts may amount to two-thirds of the planning cost.

"Only through the development of new town and country areas, offering all the best features of urban and rural life combined, can America restore a healthy balance of rural and urban life," Secretary Freeman stated.

FREQUENCY OF FOREST FIRES FRIGHTENS FEW 'FIGHTERS'

The fear of forest fires is stalking the Nation for the third consecutive year as a result of unusually dangerous weather conditions. But the Forest Service reports that firefighters and their machinery are in better shape than ever to meet this threat because of advance planning and preparation; fast, massive attack; and breakthroughs in firefighting technique and technology.

During 1967 the Nation's forest firefighters were able to hold total area burned to a little more than 4.6 million acres, slightly above average for the last 5 years.

This is considered a triumph when compared to the 15.5 million acres burned in 1950, or to the 17.6 million acres scorched in 1945.

As in past years, man was the major forest enemy in 1967. Of the 125,000 fires on lands protected by State or Federal firefighting forces, 90 percent were caused by man.

In the West especially, nature turned against herself. For example, more than half the forest fires in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington were started by lightning. In these States—and with all the elements working against them—firefighters managed to hold more than 3,000 fires to slightly over 200,000 acres burned.

High temperatures, low humidity, lightning, and man's carelessness again are making the firefighter's life a busy one. The Forest Service reports more fires and more acreage burned on National Forest land during the first 6 months of 1968 than in the same period last year.

In August, 138 smokejumpers from the Forest Service assisted in battling 110 fires in Alaska.

In July, California used 1,500 firefighters against a 51,000-acre fire in the southern part of the State.

Earlier in the year, Florida experienced an unusually dry stretch in which there were 12 to 26 new fires a day.

All of this may just be a prelude to the firefighter's task in the West later this year.

WENN ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

John Wenn, Jr., Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, recently was elected chairman of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Federal Executive Board.

In a letter congratulating Wenn, Secretary Freeman said, "I am delighted at the confidence that your associates from the other Federal agencies have shown in you by electing you as chairman of the Federal Executive Board in this important community."

Wenn joined the Department in 1946 and has served in a number of administrative positions. From 1954 to 1961 he was deputy director for management at the Portland and Cincinnati Commodity Offices, and from 1961 to 1963 he was director, Cincinnati ASCS Office.

Currently, he heads the Commodity Office in Minneapolis. His term as chairman of the Twin Cities FEB is for fiscal year 1969.

Another USDA employee, *Mrs. Elaine M. Teeter*, is serving this term as recording secretary to the executive assistant of the Twin Cities FEB.

The Federal Executive Boards were created in 1961 by President Kennedy to coordinate better Federal Government programs at the local level. The FEB's are officially sponsored organizations, and appointments to the Board are by Secretarial designation.

In their formative period the FEB's devoted their main energies to internal matters of common interest to the Federal community.

More recently, the FEB's have given priority to helping solve critical urban problems, with particular emphasis on closer relationships with local and State governments.

USDA representatives are making

material contributions to the work of the FEB's both in elective capacities and as committee members.

In addition to the Federal Executive Boards, under direct Washington sponsorship, Federal agency heads are authorized to establish local Federal Executive Associations, similar in function to the Federal Executive Boards. Eighty-one such Associations have been established.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARDS

Location	USDA Representatives
Atlanta, Ga.	<i>S. L. VanLandingham</i> (FHA)
Boston, Mass.	<i>B. S. Peterson</i> (SRS)
Chicago, Ill.	<i>D. M. Doyle</i> (C&MS)
Cleveland, Ohio	[Vacancy]
Dallas-Fort Worth, Tex.	<i>J. J. Slaughter</i> (C&MS)
Denver, Colo.	<i>F. A. Mark</i> (SCS)
Honolulu, Hawaii	<i>F. A. Haughton, Jr.</i> (SCS)
Kansas City, Mo.	<i>B. Frazier</i> (OIG)
Los Angeles, Calif.	<i>W. T. Dresser</i> (FS)
Minneapolis- St. Paul, Minn.	<i>J. Wenn, Jr.</i> (ASCS)
New York, N.Y.	[Vacancy]
Philadelphia, Pa.	<i>J. K. Vessey</i> (FS)
San Fran- cisco, Calif.	<i>L. Seidell</i> (ASCS)
Seattle, Wash.	<i>E. C. Wilcox</i> (SRS)
St. Louis, Mo.	<i>W. B. Wood</i> (FHA)



MRS. VELMA BROCK, who recently completed training as operator of a heavy-duty press, talks with Assistant Secretary Joseph M. Robertson in the Department's print shop. Mrs. Brock is one of the first women—perhaps the first woman—ever to be trained as a heavy-duty operator.

REA Borrowers Reduce Federal Cash Expenditures

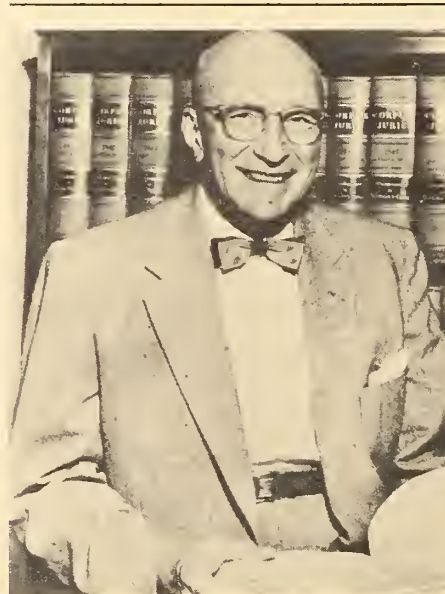
Rural electric and telephone systems financed by the Rural Electrification Administration reduced the outflow of cash from the U.S. Treasury by \$142.8 million during fiscal year 1968.

The reduction came under the Joint REA-Borrower Cash Management Program. Under this program, started 2 years ago, the REA-financed systems help the Treasury in two ways: By deferring cash withdrawals from the Treasury and by stepping up the deposit of advance repayments on loan accounts ahead of schedule.

REA financing is carried out entirely through loans from the Government which are repaid to the Treasury over a maximum of 35 years.

In fiscal 1968, the net outflow of cash from the Treasury to finance the electric and telephone programs was \$190.8 million. Without the program this outlay was expected to reach \$333.6 million.

Instead of withdrawing cash from the Treasury under approved loan contracts, the rural electric and telephone borrowers in fiscal year 1968 tapped their own required renewal and replacement funds for \$97 million to help finance essential construction. On top of this they banked \$45.8 million of their reserve funds with the Treasury by making advance repayments on their loans. They did this while making scheduled interest and principal payments in the amount of \$258.4 million.



USDA Travel Club Tours

Tours scheduled for October include: Hawaii; Mexico and Central America; Harper's Ferry; Williamsburg, Va.; and Berkeley Springs, W. Va.

For information contact, *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

WELLS HUTCHINS, the Nation's leading authority on Western water laws, recently observed his 60th anniversary as a USDA employee. And he will probably celebrate by working on the final chapters of his culti-volume book, "State Water Rights Laws of the Nineteen Western States." Hutchins joined the Department in 1908 as an irrigation economist. Since then he has written dozens of books, papers, and articles on water laws and water rights in States westward from Texas and the Dakotas. Hutchins has received USDA's Superior Service Award.

The Distribution Supervisor— A Friend in Time of Need

Imagine spending Easter Sunday traveling along the flood swollen Mississippi to insure that food reaches disaster victims . . . or speeding through the twilight of an April Saturday to reach a tornado-ravaged town with emergency food supplies.

These are the more unusual aspects of Al Carlson's job as supervisor of the Commodity Distribution Program in the Consumer Food Program's Midwest district office, Chicago, Ill. The program is administered by the Consumer and Marketing Service.

"Disaster relief is one aspect of our job which really supplies food in time of need," Carlson points out. "We worked with State and local agencies in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri to issue over 435,000 pounds of food to the Red Cross and other disaster relief agencies during those Mississippi River floods in the spring of 1965. In April 1967, we distributed over 39,000 pounds of food to residents of Chicago and other northern Illinois communities after killer tornadoes struck here."

The Commodity Distribution Program distributes abundant agricultural commodities to schools, institutions, and needy persons, and also makes food available when disaster strikes. Through Al and his USDA counterparts across the Nation, foods are distributed to State agencies, which in turn issue them through local outlets to those eligible.

"Schools taking part in the National School Lunch Program receive our donated foods, and we believe the children who enjoy the menus prepared from them learn better nutritional habits as they receive balanced diets with the help of this program," Carlson says.

"The value of these commodities in county homes, child-care centers or other institutions which care for the needy, as well as the direct distribution to needy persons, is obvious. They are helped toward a better diet which makes them healthier and boosts their morale.

"It has been shown—dramatically—that nutrition education programs conducted along with distribution of commodities improves the recipients' nutritional well-being and promotes better use of the foods."

During fiscal 1967 Carlson traveled approximately 18,000 miles to help in the distribution of 295 million pounds of commodities worth about \$60 million.

Over the past 6 months he has been involved in negotiations which will bring the food donation program to even more low-income persons in Missouri, Nebraska, and South Dakota.



Conservation Experts "Adventure" With Teenage Camp Fire Girls

Summer '68 was ADVENTURE '68 for Edward P. Cliff, chief of the Forest Service, and four of his staff.

Cliff, along with Robert Tyrell, Gay Wiedenhaft, E. Allen Crozer, and Lee Carr, took part in a new study program sponsored by the National Horizon Club Conference at Estes Park, Colo. Purpose of this program for teenage Camp Fire Girls was to promote better ways to preserve and use America's natural resources.

The Forest Service representatives outlined conservation work by Government and led discussions on conservation education, recreation and lands, and timber and grasslands management.

Midway through the course, groups of the girls went by "travelcade" to check the experts' theories against actual practice in neighboring Western States.

The summer's adventure concluded back in Colorado with discussions that applied observations and theory to conservation leadership projects back in the girls' home States.

"In our normal distribution operations, the State or county government pays the administrative costs of the program," says Carlson. "However, some counties cannot afford this cost and thus have not participated in the program. Our agreement with Missouri, for example, allows us to offer the programs to 26 low-income counties where USDA will absorb the administrative costs,

NOW AG RESEARCHERS KNOW WHAT'S ON SHELVES IN HAWAII

Did you know that in the reference room of the National Agricultural Library you can find out what is in the collections of more than nine different libraries, one as far away as Honolulu, Hawaii? This information is housed in something called a book catalog.

The book catalogs of these special libraries make available a wealth of bibliographic information about books, serials, periodical articles, pamphlets, manuscripts, and so on, in these collections. This enables the scientist or research worker to consult the holdings of several libraries while comfortably seated at a table.

The National Agricultural Library owns numerous special catalogs in book form. Among some of the outstanding catalogs available for consultation in the reference room are the following titles:

Arnold Arboretum. Library

Catalog of the Library . . .
(240.5 Ar 6)

*Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum,
Honolulu Dictionary catalog
of the library (Folio 240.5
B453)*

*British Museum. Department of
Printed Books General catalog
of printed books (240.5 B77)*

*Hunt, Rachel McMasters (Miller)
Catalog of botanical books in the
collection of Rachel McMasters
Hunt (241.75 H91)*

*John Crerar Library
Author-title catalog (Z881.J6)
Classified subject catalog
(Z881.J62)*

*Lloyd Library, Cincinnati
Bibliography relating to botany,
exclusive of floras (241.75L77)*

*Massachusetts Horticultural Society.
Library Dictionary catalog
(241 M38C 1962)*

*National Library of Medicine
Catalog, 1950-1965 (240.5 Um
322) Current catalog (Z881.N3)*

*U.S. Library of Congress National
Union catalog (240.5 Un 32 Ca)*

thus enabling them to begin the food donation program. These counties are among the lowest income counties in the Nation which USDA is trying to reach with a food assistance program, thus helping relieve hunger among the less fortunate in these areas."

With this challenge, Al Carlson may be spending more Saturday and Sunday evenings "on the road" for C&MS.

Agri Briefs

At least 287 schools in Michigan have received technical help from the Soil Conservation Service in building **OUTDOOR CONSERVATION LABORATORIES**. The Lincoln Elementary School at Coldwater, for example, has built a model watershed on 1½ acres that includes a detention dam, diversion terrace, and grassed floodway. Water from the school's roof and lawn, directed through the model, shows students how watershed control measures function. Ann Arbor High School has a 27-acre outdoor classroom that includes nature trails in 10 acres of woodland and an open area kept as a farm. Schools in other States are cooperating with SCS in similar programs.

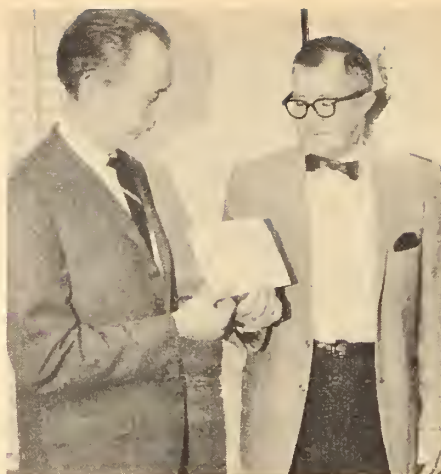
Who's protecting our meat supply? A new committee, that's who. Secretary Freeman recently established the **NATIONAL MEAT INSPECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE** to assist in implementing Federal and State meat inspection programs. The committee consists of State officials concerned with or responsible for programs under the Wholesome Meat Act, which protects consumers from meat and meat products that are adulterated or misbranded.

Despite "tight" money and high interest rates, farmers borrowed over \$9 billion from their **COOPERATIVE FARM CREDIT SYSTEM** during the 12 months ended June 30—up 11 percent from the previous year. This increase was due in part to higher production costs, use of modern machinery and technology, and additional land to keep manpower and machinery busy.

First year-end figures show that **4,342 FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL VISITORS WERE ASSISTED** by USDA during fiscal 1968. More than 1,900 of these visitors came for U.S. agriculture training under Agency for International Development or United Nations sponsorship; the remainder came under private and other arrangements.

Corporations have not made serious inroads on the family farm! The **ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE** recently found that in 22 States, corporations make up less than 1 percent of the commercial farms, operate less than 7 percent of the land, and sell only 4 percent of the farm products.

Secretary Freeman reported recently that during fiscal year 1968, **22,228 farmers and ranchers** hit by natural disasters received **EMERGENCY LOANS** totaling more than \$108 million. This is the largest amount of emergency credit advanced in any year in the history of the program, and represents a 14 percent increase over the \$94.6 million advanced in fiscal 1967.



While making field investigations in Massachusetts for the Soil Conservation Service, geologist **DONALD E. MILLS** noticed a train in trouble. The two back wheels of the front truck of a cement car had jumped the track. Knowing that this incident could cause derailment, Mills immediately caught the attention of the crew at the end of the train. He then returned to his vehicle and hurried to notify the crew at the front of the train. Railroad company officials recently showed their appreciation by giving Mills (right) a savings bond, being presented by Francis J. Stipek.

APPOINTMENTS

HAROLD L. KOELLER recently was appointed agricultural attaché to Brussels, Belgium, replacing Clayton E. Whipple. Koeller was transferred directly from Paris, where he was assistant agricultural attaché.

A veteran of the agricultural attaché service since 1952, Koeller has served as attaché to Copenhagen and Belgrade and as assistant attaché to Paris first from 1952 to 1956 and from 1965 until his present assignment.

He joined USDA in 1939 and has worked for the Foreign Agricultural Service in Washington as trade program coordinator and as agricultural economist.

Belgium provided a market for about \$180 million in U.S. agricultural exports in 1967, with corn, soybeans, grain sorghums, and tobacco the top commodities.

Secretary Freeman has designated **DR. NED BAYLEY**, director of Science and Education, as USDA representative on the Federal Council for Science and Technology.

The Federal Council is composed of high-ranking officials of 11 departments and agencies primarily concerned with science and technology in the Federal Government.

CLAYTON C. CASE was recently named director of the Operating Loan Division, Farmers Home Administration. Case came to the Washington, D.C., office in 1952 after joining the Department in Wisconsin in 1935.

AWARDS

Another USDA employee has been named winner of a 1968 American Motors Conservation Award, presented annually to 10 professional and 10 nonprofessional conservationists for dedicated efforts in renewable natural resources. He is **ERLING B. PODOLL**, Soil Conservation Service biologist, Bismarck, N. Dak. Podoll received the award for his sound judgment and perseverance in spelling out the potential wildlife habitat losses that could result from watershed projects in North Dakota. He also received a bronze sculptured medallion and a cash award of \$500. In July, Philip F. Allan became the first Department employee to receive this 1968 honor.

DR. WALDO C. AULT is to receive the Achievement Award of the Northeast Section, American Oil Chemists' Society, at the organization's September 17 meeting in New York City. From 1942 until his retirement in 1967, Dr. Ault was a chief in the Eastern utilization research and development division in Wyndmoor, Pa.

Agricultural Research Service employee **DR. ROBERT L. ORY**, New Orleans, La., has been awarded a Fulbright-Hayes Research Grant to do advanced study at the Technical University of Denmark. He will spend a year as a research scholar in plant seed proteins in the university's department of biochemistry and nutrition. Primary aim of the research will be to investigate enzymes in dormant and germinating seeds.

DR. MARVIN E. JENSEN, Soil and Water Conservation Research Division, Kimberly, Idaho, recently received a 1968 Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Chairman Plays Host From Dawn to Dusk

Dunreath O. Grover, who daily plays host to 12,500 Department employees for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, will soon be catering to the needs of about 7,000 fellow restaurant men.

Grover is manager of USDA cafeterias in Washington, D.C., and Beltsville, Md. He was recently appointed chairman for the East-South Restaurant Convention and Exposition being held Dec. 3-5 in Washington. The biannual event will be sponsored by the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington.

A Department employee for 10 years, Grover has served for 7 years as an association director.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

SEPT. 12, 1968

Vol. XXVII No. 18

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SEP 24 1968

USDA

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

VOL. XXVII NO. 19
SEPT. 26, 1968

ARS Research Fills Market Left by Discontinued Product

For many years a subsidiary of a Springfield, Mo., company has been making and selling a mushroom-flavored powder. But due to bacteriological and technical difficulties, production of the powder was recently discontinued.

As a result, a number of leading food processors who had manufactured products from the powder were faced with a production breakoff. The processors have found, however, that a drum-dried mushroom powder developed by the Eastern utilization research and development laboratory, Agricultural Research Service, is an excellent substitute for the original substance.



A slide series, CO-OPS FOR RURAL AREAS, issued by the Farmer Cooperative Service as a project of the Working Party of the Office of Economic Opportunity and the USDA is discussed at a preview of the new set. From left are Clark Kirkman, FCS Training Division; Beryle E. Stanton, program services branch chief, Office of Management Services; Job Savage, FCS assistant administrator; Ed Wilms, OEO action program training branch chief; and Richard G. Schmitt, Rural Community Development Service and chairman of the Working Party.

MR. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For September 1968 ☆☆



Reorganizations often lead to moves. Moves are expensive. And they create inconveniences. Recently, the Farmer Cooperative Service moved the furniture and equipment of 70 people. JOHN J. SMIROLDO saved his agency over \$1,000 by negotiating for a less expensive mover. His office layout templates speeded up the process and cut extra steps. Telephone installations were also speeded up by using Smirolodo's detailed plans. He used USDA equipment for the inter-office signal system, saving rental on telephone company buzzers. For his actions Smirolodo received a commendation from Secretary Freeman. Alertness and planning paid off for FCS. Opportunities to reduce costs in USDA present themselves frequently. Other innovative ideas worth trying will again be recognized in this USDA COST REDUCER OF THE MONTH series.

NEW USDA SLIDE SERIES DESCRIBES RURAL CO-OPS

Co-ops' self-help advantages to rural groups wanting to raise their income are explained in a slide series with printed script issued recently by the Farmer Cooperative Service. Its title is *Co-ops for Rural Areas*.

The set of 38 color slides is designed as a simple, easy-to-understand educational tool. Up to date, the slides illustrate what job can be done, how it can be done, and where to get help to do it.

The first part of the series explains in simple language what a co-op is. Then the series describes the various kinds of co-ops for rural areas—farm product marketing, supply, credit, rural electric, recreation, handicraft, and others. One section of the series illustrates what is needed for success in starting and operating a co-op.

FCS developed the series as a project of the Office of Economic Opportunity and the Department's Working Party. It is designed for use by Rural Community Action Agencies and Technical Action Panels in programs for disadvantaged

people. The series is also for use by teachers and others in discussing basic cooperative principles.

Sets and the printed script may be obtained by writing to the Office of Information, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250. The set with booklet costs \$5.50.

The Farmers Home Administration can add a new type of co-op to the long list financed by the ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY LOAN PROGRAM. Farmers in southwest Virginia, eastern Tennessee, and southern West Virginia have formed "a helicopter co-op" to wage war on a virulent and insidious type of thistle that plagues the area. The co-op has 200 farmer-members and got its start with a \$2,500 loan from the S.W. Virginia Agricultural Association and a \$52,000 loan from FHA. With the money the co-op purchased a G7 Bell helicopter which was converted and outfitted with a spray rig. This spring the helicopter sprayed about 8,000 acres of farmland. The machine can spray 100 acres per hour and cuts spraying time in half.

USDA'ers MAKE NEWS AT CONSERVATION MEETING

Robert W. Eikleberry, soil correlator for interpretations for the Soil Conservation Service in Lincoln, Nebr., recently was named president-elect of the Soil Conservation Society of America.

Eikleberry is a charter member of the 12,000 member organization dedicated to advancing the science and art of good land use. He was cited by the Society in 1966 for service as chairman of the national membership committee and was named a fellow of the Society last year. He has also served as secretary, treasurer, and president of the Society's Lincoln chapter.

Also at the Society's 23d annual meeting, Einar L. Roget of Albuquerque, N. Mex., was elected vice president for 1969 and D. E. Hutchinson of Lincoln was elected to a 3-year term as council member for the Northern Plains region. Roget is State conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service in New Mexico. Hutchinson is State conservationist in Nebraska.

In addition, three USDA employees were named fellows of the Soil Conservation Society of America during the meeting attended by more than 1,000 natural resource conservationists from the United States and Canada.

They are Clarence S. Britt, assistant to the director of soil and water conservation research for the Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md.; Talcott W. Edminster, deputy administrator of farm research for ARS in Washington, D.C.; and Douglass A. Craig, Southeast area director of State and private forestry for the Forest Service in Atlanta, Ga.

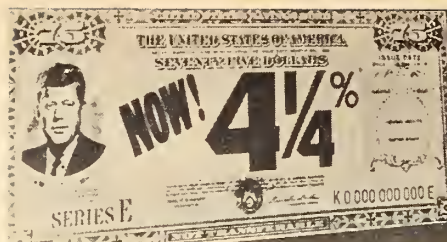
Seven other USDA employees received commendations for their outstanding work in the Society:

—Thomas L. Ayers, ASCS retired, for organizing and conducting in-school conservation workshops and demonstrations in the Washington, D.C., school system;

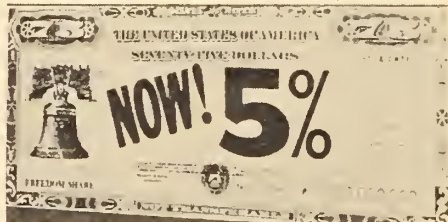
—A. P. Barnett, ARS research engineer, for leadership in helping plan and conduct an annual natural resources conservation youth workshop, a project of the Georgia chapter;

—Glenn A. Beecham, SCS assistant State conservation engineer for Oklahoma, for efforts to increase the membership of the Stillwater chapter of the Society, for leadership in organizing the Big Hunt chapter, and for help in reactivating the Northwest Oklahoma chapter;

—Mitchell G. Hassler, coordinator of the Lincoln Hills Resource Conservation and Development Project, for assistance in developing and furthering the proj-



BONDS AND SHARES ARE BETTER THAN EVER—Series E and H Savings Bonds now earn interest at the rate of 4.25 percent when held to maturity of 7 years; Freedom Shares earn 5 percent when held for 4.5 years. Individuals may purchase up to \$20,000 (face value) of Series E Savings Bonds per calendar year, and up to \$30,000 (face value) per calendar year of Series H Bonds. Freedom Share purchasers are limited to \$1,350 (face value) per calendar year.



SENIOR CITIZENS HELP USDA COMMUNICATE WITH TOURISTS

The senior citizens in Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties, Mich., were recently given a part in the public service program of the Ottawa National Forest.

Through the work project SELLS—See and Enjoy Lands, Lakes, and Scenery—the elderly residents have been drawn into information activities to promote tourism throughout the two-county area.

To date, 45 senior citizens have been employed in this project after completing a 2-week training course administered by the Forest Service and other agencies. Those persons successfully completing the course work 20 hours a week and are paid \$1.60 an hour.

Besides training the project candidates, the Forest Service also employs a number of them as tourist guides within the National Forest.

Commenting on the project, Regional Forester George S. James admitted that it was still "early to report on its success."

"However," he continued, "the new employees are enthusiastic about the project and very much involved with it."

ect, and for noteworthy contributions as a leader in the Society's Hoosier chapter;

—Clifford R. Collings, ASCS, conservation specialist, for leadership in broadening the membership of the Utah chapter, and for help in organizing the Utah State University Student chapter;

—Arne J. Kastrup, SCS technician,

One-Third of Federal Workers Receive Formal Training

According to the Civil Service Commission, more than one of every three Federal civilian employees received 8 hours or more of formal classroom training during fiscal 1967.

Results of training conducted for Federal employees during fiscal 1967 are contained in a Commission report based on the first comprehensive review ever conducted of employee training in the Federal service.

The report focuses on formal classroom training of 8 hours or more and does not cover informal or on-the-job training.

The Commission report included the following information about Federal workers who received training during the year:

—Of the 1,008,780 participants at 56 agencies who received formal training, 80 percent were trained within their own agencies, 15 percent were trained in non-government facilities, and 5 percent received training at other agencies.

—Sixty-six percent of the participants were General Schedule employees, 20 percent were Wage Board, and 14 percent were those paid under other pay systems.

—Technical training designed to improve skills was received by 45 percent of the participants; supervisory or management training by 18 percent; professional or scientific training by 11 percent; and a variety of other types of training was received by the remaining 26 percent.

—Training in Planning-Programming-Budgeting Systems was provided by 26 agencies; 6,389 employees received such training within their own agencies, and 2,200 received interagency PPBS training from the Commission.

—More than 1,000 employees received training in excess of 120 days, 98 percent of which was at universities and colleges. Ninety-six percent of the training was at facilities within the United States, and 4 percent was at foreign facilities. Eighty career employees attended seven universities under the President's Mid-Career Education Program in Systematic Analysis.

for service to the Sandhills chapter, Georgia;

—A. Reid Powell, SCS economist, for establishing a standard system of records for the Florida chapter that resulted in more efficient member service.

The theme of the Society this year was "Creative Conservation for Life and Living."

Notes on Milk Market Administrators

Milk market administrators handle the work of the 67 Federal milk marketing orders across the Nation. They are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and are under the direction of the Consumer and Marketing Service. Their salaries and office expenses, however, are met by assessments on the milk dealers operating under the orders.

The Federal milk orders set minimum prices to be paid by milk dealers to farmers. The prices are based on supply and demand and other economic factors. Thus, the orders establish minimum prices for milk only at the first level of trade, as milk leaves the farm to enter the marketing system. But the economic stability encouraged by the order program provides the farmer with the confidence he needs to make long-range plans and investments necessary to keep the American consumer supplied with a steady, dependable flow of milk.

The milk market administrator works locally, or regionally, in the marketing area covered by a particular order.

Typically, in the course of a month, the market administrator calculates the uniform price to dairy farmers, based on reports he receives each month from milk dealers telling how the milk was used in the market. He conducts audits to verify these reports from handlers, as well as their payments to their dairy farmers. Milk weights and butterfat content also must be verified. And the milk market administrator must provide dairy farmers with market-wide information on milk sales and receipts, and other related facts.

To do all this successfully, the milk market administrator must have knowledge of accountancy, chemistry, statistics, economics. He must work well with his supporting milk order staff, and have skill in meeting and dealing with the public.

Before aiming at their present posts, the administrators have previous, substantial experience in milk order work, moving up through the ranks.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's October list. Plentifuls are *pork, apples, potatoes, rice, dry beans, and cheese.*

MISSISSIPPI recently became the 25th State to sign a cooperative meat inspection agreement with USDA under provisions of the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967. By mid-1969, most of the 50 States will have taken preliminary steps required to enter into this meat inspection program.



Scientists Double Chromosomes— Produce Larger, Tougher Azaleas

Thanks to a treatment developed by horticulturist *R. L. Pryor* and technician *L. C. Frazier*, home gardeners may soon be able to purchase azaleas that are larger and tougher.

The two Agricultural Research Service specialists recently produced the improved azaleas by doubling the number of chromosomes within the plant cells. Pryor and Frazier noticed that by treating azalea plants with a solution extracted from a fall blossom, azalea flowers were not only larger but that they lasted longer on plants.

Since doubling the chromosomes doubled the size of each plant cell, leaves were thicker and tougher, and flower colors were more intense.

This is the first successful attempt to induce a double chromosome number in azaleas. Previous ARS treatments have involved lilies, daylilies, poinsettias, carnations, and roses.

Job Opportunities for Analysts, Economists, and Budget Technicians

Vacancies exist in Washington, D.C., for program analysts, economists, and financial management and budget technicians on the Planning, Evaluation, and Programing Staff in the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

The Planning, Evaluation, and Programing Staff (PEPS) is responsible for the overall design, installation, and operation of the Department's Planning-Programing-Budgeting System (PPBS) and serves as the staff arm of the Secretary for long-range program planning and evaluation.

Positions may be filled at grades GS-7 (trainee) through GS-15. Candidates should have education, training, or experience in economics, mathematics, statistics, systems analysis, operations research, program analysis, cost analysis, budget examination, management analysis, or related activities.

If Department personnel know recent college graduates or other qualified people, tell them they may inquire about these positions by writing to:

Planning, Evaluation, and Programing Staff

Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Washington, D.C. 20250

Agri Briefs

The NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING ON FARMS in the United States continues to dwindle, but the farm population is far from disappearing. As of April 1967—the latest date for which figures are available—estimated farm population was 10.8 million. Since 1960, numbers have dropped by 4.8 million persons—an average decline of about 5.3 percent a year. Of the total farm population in April 1967, 28 percent were under 14 years of age. In contrast to the nonfarm population—where there are more women than men—there were almost 107 farm men for every 100 farm women tallied last year.

Foods donated by the Department provide immediate help to a low-income family in meeting their day's food needs. There are 22 different foods of high nutritional value available to help improve diets of the 3.5 million people participating in USDA's COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM. The Consumer and Marketing Service offers State and local agencies enough of these foods to provide about 36 pounds per person per month. In terms of nutritional needs, these foods can supply from 70 to 100 percent of recommended daily allowances for eight basic nutrients set by the National Research Council.

Secretary Freeman recently extended for 2 years the PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION. In calling a meeting of the committee in Washington for Oct. 9-11, the Secretary reappointed nine members and named nine others. The committee's purpose is to make objective evaluations and constructive suggestions for program needs and development in soil and water conservation. The committee functions on a continuing basis and meets with the Secretary usually once a year.

According to a report issued recently by the Economic Research Service, RURAL AMERICANS HAVE LESS ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES than their urban counterparts. Nearly 54 percent more physicians per 100,000 population are practicing in urban areas than in rural areas. In 1966 the United States had slightly more than 265,000 doctors, 180,000 of whom were in private practice. Of the private practitioners, just over 22,500 were located in rural counties.

A total of 849 confirmed outbreaks of hog cholera were reported during the fiscal year ended June 30. Although increases in outbreak numbers over the previous year were noted in 10 States, six States and Puerto Rico reported significant decreases. The remaining 34 States reported about the same number of outbreaks. Before the COOPERATIVE HOG CHOLERA ERADICATION PROGRAM began, an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 outbreaks occurred each year.

USE OF COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER in the United States and Puerto Rico totaled 37.1 million tons during 1966-67—up 7 percent from a year earlier. Overall, use was up in 36 States.

Anyone for Inspecting Meat?

Take a man off the street—a high school graduate, an average student, with no experience with animals. How long would it take to make him a qualified meat inspector?

Four weeks, say officials of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

C&MS trains all newly employed Federal meat inspectors, as well as some State inspectors, at regional centers in Fort Worth, Tex.; Omaha, Nebr.; Los Angeles, Calif.; and St. Paul, Minn.

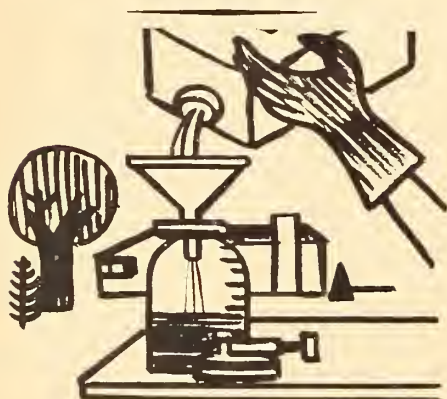
The trainees receive classroom instruction in sanitation, packing house procedures, health and safety, humane slaughter methods, inspection of animals before and after slaughter, and even radiological monitoring. The instruction is supplemented by on-the-job training in packing plants, where the trainees are supervised by professional personnel.

The trainees are also taught to recognize glands that should be cut from a carcass, how to cut them, and how to recognize normal and abnormal conditions in an animal.

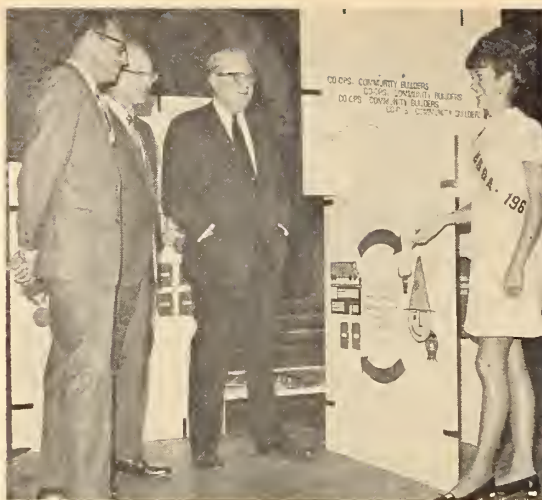
Recently, C&MS announced that the administrative headquarters of its national training program is being relocated in Denton, Tex., in order that the Department might better administer and develop activities for training meat inspectors.

The new center will be staffed by 14 employees under the supervision of *Dr. Moses A. Simmons*, and will be operational by the end of the year.

Dr. Simmons is a staff officer for training in the Livestock Slaughter Inspection Division, Washington, D.C.



for
PESTiCiDE safety
Mix Only What You Need



Darlene Johnson, MISS USDA, gives a preview of one of the exhibits being used for CO-OP MONTH 1968—one tied to this year's theme of "Cooperatives: Community Builders." Viewing the exhibit are representatives of two of the national cooperative organizations sponsoring an event on October 7 on the theme, "Farmer Co-ops Build Communities." From left are Kenneth D. Naden, executive vice president, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives; David W. Angevine, administrator, Farmer Cooperative Service, and executive director of the 1968 Cooperative Month observance; and Roy F. Hendrickson, executive secretary, National Federation of Grain Cooperatives.

AWARDS

The following awards were presented to USDA personnel and cooperating State Extension workers recently at the annual conference of the American Society for Horticultural Science:

HAROLD A. SCHOMER and **KENNETH L. OLSEN** of the Agricultural Research Service, Wenatchee, Wash., and **RICHARD D. BARTRAM** of Washington State University's Agricultural Extension Service were presented the National Apple Institute Award for the best paper on improved marketing and utilization of apples. The award is \$100 (divided among the authors).

C. F. ANDRUS and **G. W. BOHN**, Agricultural Research Service, Charleston, S.C., and La Jolla, Calif., respectively, received the Asgrow Award for the best paper on genetic and biological factors affecting production and handling of vegetable crops. The award is a certificate of merit and \$100 for each author.

MIKLOS FAUST, Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md., and **BETTY R. CHASE** and **LOUIS M. MASSEY, Jr.**, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, were presented the Joseph Harvey Gourley Award for the best paper on general pomology. The award consists of \$100—divided among the three—with each author receiving a silver medal mounted on a pen set.

EDDIE F. KIMBRELL, Consumer and Marketing Service, Washington, D.C., recently received a Career Education Award and \$1,000 from the National Institute of Public Affairs. As one of 70 Government employees selected for the 1968-69 academic year, Kimbrell will study for a year at Stanford University in California. NIPA is designed to assist in developing potentially high-level executives in Federal, State, and local government agencies.

Three Agricultural Research Service personnel technicians in Hyattsville, Md.,

YOU, TOO, CAN HELP!

This is a call for all employees of the Department to offer your services in major problem areas facing us today.

There are numerous organizations in your community that need volunteers to meet the crises in our cities, to fight the war on poverty, and to provide assistance to disadvantaged persons. If you have not been a part of such a program, now is the time to get involved.

You can make a major contribution to the solution of these problems by donating a few hours of your time each week. Many worldwide organizations have been serving humanity in this manner for years.

If you are interested in serving as a volunteer, contact your personnel officer. Ask him if you can see the brochure titled, "Voluntary Help Wanted." Your willingness to help could make the difference between success or failure of these programs.

recently received cash awards of \$100 each for their work with this year's Youth Opportunity Campaign. **EARL C. HADLOCK**, **RAYMOND GRAY**, and **ROGER ROARK** were presented the Special Act or Service Awards for hiring 207 youths as ARS student aides. Of these youths, 50 came from an underprivileged area in southeast Washington, D.C., and 155 were from minority groups.

D. D. SMITH, Soil and Water Conservation Research Division, Beltsville, Md., recently received the John Deere Medal for 1968 from the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORD

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



VOL. XXVII NO. 21
OCT. 24, 1968

GRANT TO ADMINISTER SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Secretary Freeman has named *Kenneth E. Grant*, associate administrator of the Soil Conservation Service, to succeed retiring Administrator *Donald A. Williams*.

Dr. Williams will become an advisor for the Ford Foundation in India.

Dr. Williams is well known for his water conservation work in the Western States. He began his career in 1935 as a Civilian Conservation Corps camp superintendent.

Said Secretary Freeman, "Don Williams is one of the world's great conservationists. He has been responsible for . . . the small watershed program, the Great Plains Conservation Program, and was the first man to call attention to our growing land use, erosion, and water supply problems brought about by rapid conversion of rural lands to urban uses."

In 1967, Dr. Williams received the Rockefeller Public Service Award in Administration. He received the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts in 1957, and the Department's Distinguished Service Award in 1958.

Grant joined SCS as a junior soil scientist in 1946. He was State conservationist in New Hampshire from 1962 to 1964, when he became State conservationist in Indiana. He served in Indianapolis until 1967, when he was appointed to his present post.

In recent months, Grant has been USDA's representative on a Government-wide task force on the quality of the environment.



MRS. COST REDUCTION, USDA

★ ★ For October 1968 ★ ★

Large plastic bags COST ABOUT 4½ CENTS EACH, but LOOK WHAT THEY CAN SAVE! MRS. FRANCES L. COLE, in cooperation with Jo Ellen Rod, suggested using the waterproof bags to protect lab clothing temporarily. Result: Annual savings in laundering costs of \$63 per person. Mrs. Cole is a laboratory aide with the Agricultural Research Service at Ames, Iowa. Mrs. Rod resigned recently. For their suggestion, the ladies received a \$30 CASH AWARD through the Incentive Awards Program, and a commendation from Secretary Freeman. Whether you wash glassware, clean equipment, or work with substances that can splatter, these bags can help save costs. The bags are available from the General Services Administration. If this idea can be used in your organization, please contact your Employee Suggestions or Cost Reduction coordinator. Who has the next money-saving idea? The USDA COST REDUCER OF THE MONTH series will recognize those having the greatest potential for widespread adoption.

FARM CREDIT SERVICE officials, cooperative leaders, and newsmen recently took part in an agriculture credit symposium to Omaha, Nebr. The group learned, for example, how a \$2 million soybean-processing plant, now under construction at Eagle Grove, Iowa, is being made possible through financing by the Omaha Bank for Cooperatives. The plant will be owned by 110 local cooperatives serving 55,000 farmer-members, and will employ about 100 people. It will process up to 1,500 tons of soybeans a day. The symposium is one of a series of national events this month recognizing Co-op Month. The overall theme of this year's observance is "Cooperatives—Community Builders."

DAVIS DESIGNATED ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Ted J. Davis of Oklahoma City, Okla., was recently nominated Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services. He succeeds *George L. Mehren* who resigned in May.

A cattleman and rancher, Davis practiced law before coming to USDA. In 1947 he was president of the Oklahoma State 4-H Club, and in 1948 was chairman of the National 4-H Club Conference held in Chicago.

Davis manages his family's ranch, of which he is president, and is active in the American Quarterhorse Association and local, State, and national bar associations.

In Oklahoma City, he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Urban League, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Community Action Development Committee, and numerous organizations related to housing problems and public housing.

PRESIDENT PRAISES

USDA BOND DRIVE RESULTS

President Johnson recently expressed his pleasure with results of USDA employee participation in the U.S. Savings Bonds Campaign.

In a letter to Secretary Freeman, the President said:

"I was heartened to see that your Department had won a high place on the honor roll of Federal agencies participating in the 1968 Savings Bonds Campaign.

"Your score of 81.1 percent participation testifies to the lively and intelligent spirit of patriotism that is always characteristic of the Department of Agriculture. You have given it new strength and life again, while giving better stability and security to all our people. Congratulations to you all."

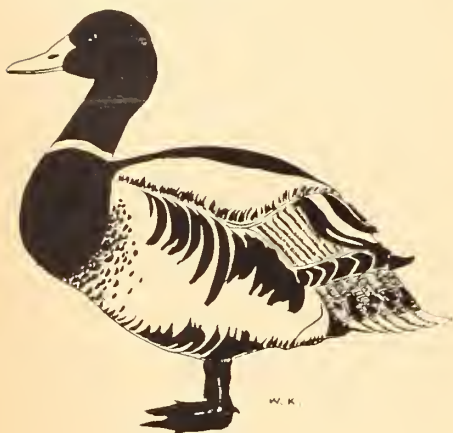


SUMMER AIDE TURNS HAND TO SCS WORK

This summer *Wayne King*, a Youth Opportunity Corps trainee, spent some time doodling at his desk. And the Soil Conservation Service is glad he did.

When Wayne was not busy getting basic training in commercial art at the SCS Information Unit in Lincoln, Nebr., he was producing plant and wildlife drawings so good they will be used in future SCS publications.

Wayne produced several of these drawings which depict his natural ability to illustrate wildlife and flowers and other detailed subjects.



Wayne is a personable and industrious young man who is just as at home with a football in his hand as he is with a pen. In addition, he plays the saxophone, organ, and drums—and even sings.

Wayne worked under illustrators *Don Hanson* and *Felix Summers*, who helped him with layout, lettering, and composition. (Summers is nationally known for his conservation cartoons.)

A typical day this summer for Wayne included his full-time job; a few hours' running to keep in shape; Teen Council; and practice with *The Naturals*, a four-piece dance combo.

Wayne enrolled this fall at Fairbury Junior College in Nebraska, where he will study English, art, and music.



Four provincial natural resource officers from Zambia spent a week recently observing management practices on the Kaibab National Forest in Arizona. The men have backgrounds in teaching and administration of natural resources in the Republic of Zambia, formerly Northern Rhodesia. FOREST SERVICE personnel showed the visitors many forest activities—logging, ski areas, range management, wildlife and livestock, water developments, fire control, etc. The Zambian conservationists will spend the remainder of their 6-month visit to the United States working with other agencies in USDA and in the Department of the Interior.

Forest Service Chief Given Copy of Natural Resource Ad

Institutional advertising can help bring money into a company's tills as well as serve a national cause. At least, the Sinclair Oil Corporation of New York City is sold on this philosophy.

As proof, Sinclair Oil has conducted a program of national magazine advertising for 14 years, emphasizing natural resources and wonders of the Nation.

The latest entry in the company's campaign is a full-color advertisement featuring recreational opportunities in the Pisgah and Nantahela National Forests in North Carolina.

Edward P. Cliff, chief of the Forest Service, was recently presented a framed copy of the ad by *Carl Drescher*, vice president of Sinclair Oil. In making the presentation, Drescher noted the interest of his company in natural resources and their conservation, and said that such ads benefit the company directly by "getting people out on the highway."

Other ads in the campaign have featured National Parks and Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, historic areas, and scenic waterways.



FOREST SERVICE CHIEF Edward P. Cliff, left, identifies photos presented to him by officials of the Sinclair Oil Corporation. The trio gave Chief Cliff a large framed copy of a color advertisement featuring two National Forests in North Carolina. From right, the company officials are: Carl Drescher, vice president; Bruce Quayle, director of public relations; and B. E. Hinton, Jr., vice president.

USDA Travel Club Tours

The only USDA Travel Club tour scheduled for December will be to New York City (hotel and bus only).

"The Poultry and Egg National Board takes this means of saying 'thank you' to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Consumer and Marketing Service, Plentiful Foods Section. . . ." That's the beginning of the inscription on a plaque presented to JAMES SHELDON (left), Midwest district supervisor, by L. A. "Tiny" Wilhelm, president of PENB, during a recent luncheon in Chicago. PENB recognized the Midwest district staff's efforts during promotions of poultry and egg products over the past 3 years.

For information about club tours, or membership applications, contact *Mrs. Betty Brooks*, Welfare Activities Office, Room 1066—South Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

The RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION HAS FINANCED more than 1,000 rural electric systems, mostly cooperatives, and over 800 telephone systems. The electric systems serve about 20 million rural people and the telephone systems about 7.5 million rural people.



NEW INSPECTION SYSTEM SPEEDS TRAVELER'S ENTRY

A new inspection system, designed to speed up the clearance of international air travelers arriving in this country while maintaining security, is now being tested by the Agricultural Research Service and three other Government agencies.

The other agencies are the Customs Bureau, Public Health Service, and the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Under the accelerated inspection system, an inspector from one of the four agencies interrogates incoming air passengers and examines their parcels and baggage. About 80 percent of the arriving travelers usually require no further examination. The inspection system, however, does select some travelers for further baggage examination or additional processing.

ARS quarantine inspectors at the Nation's airports cooperate with officers of the other three services to prevent the entry of damaging foreign plant pests and animal diseases.

Working together this summer, the four agencies set up a test of the new inspection system at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport. The system was later extended to San Antonio's International Airport and most recently to Dulles International Airport.

The system was recommended last spring by a task force composed of representatives from the four agencies and the



AT NEW YORK'S JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, INCOMING TRAVELERS UNDERGO BAGGAGE CHECK

Bureau of the Budget. Modified versions of the new system have been used along

the Mexican and Canadian borders for a number of years.

FREEMAN TAKES WING ON POULTRY; NAMES C&MS DIRECTORS

Immediately after the Wholesome Poultry Products Act was signed into law recently, Secretary Freeman began taking steps to implement it.

The Secretary directed the Consumer and Marketing Service to contact State officials responsible for carrying out cooperative Federal-State provisions of the new law, and instructed the newly appointed directors of C&MS' eight regional offices for consumer protection to make

themselves available to help the States enter into cooperative agreements for inspection. These steps include a Federal-State review of State inspection systems and State-inspected poultry plants.

Secretary Freeman also stressed the need for the regional offices to work with State agencies to identify and correct operations in poultry plants that pose a hazard to public health.

In June, the Secretary combined the Federal meat and poultry inspection programs. The merger assures wholesomeness of the Nation's meat and poultry supply, and reduces the cost of providing this important consumer protection service.

The new regional directors are:

Northeast: *Dr. C. F. Diehl*, with headquarters at Philadelphia; Mid-Atlantic: *Dr. George Harner*, with headquarters at Raleigh, N.C.; Southeast: *Dr. M. T. Hatter*, at Atlanta, Ga.; North Central: *Dr. L. J. Raftery*, at Chicago; Northern: *Dr. L. E. Burkert*, at St. Paul, Minn.; Central: *Dr. M. A. Nelson*, at Kansas City, Mo.; Southwest: *Dr. R. F. Kieldsen*, at Dallas, Tex.; and Western: *Dr. E. M. Christophersen*, at San Francisco.



During the recently concluded QUIZORAMA series in the 4-H Citizenship Short Course, USDA hosted about 4,650 teenagers from 37 States. The purpose: To acquaint the 4-H delegates with the Department's agencies and services in Washington, D.C., and in their counties and States back home. QUIZORAMA was opened with a taped welcome and introduction to the Department by Secretary Freeman. Then, a 4-H panel—followed by the audience—queried a three-member panel of USDA officials. Department panelists here (right) are Mrs. Fern Kelley, Federal Extension Service; Jack Towers, Office of Information; and Miss Gertrude Drinker, International Agricultural Development Service. Different USDA agency representatives staffed the panels each week during the 1½-hour programs.

Seven USDA employees were recently named FELLOWS OF THE SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA. They are: Clarence A. Rechenthin, Soil Conservation Service, Temple, Tex.; Glenn B. Anderson, SCS, Vienna, Va.; Benjamin Isgur, SCS, Northampton, Mass.; William C. Moldenhauer, Agricultural Research Service, Ames, Iowa; Clarence S. Britt, ARS, Beltsville, Md.; Talcott W. Edminster, ARS, Washington, D.C.; and Douglass A. Craig, Forest Service, Atlanta, Ga.

APPOINTMENTS

The Soil Conservation Service recently appointed—

• **EINAR L. ROGET**, State conservationist for New Mexico since 1965, as State conservationist for Arkansas at Little Rock.

• **KENNETH L. WILLIAMS**, assistant State conservationist for Arizona since 1966, to replace Roget in New Mexico.

• **WILLIAM G. JOHNSON, JR.**, assistant State conservationist in Arkansas since 1958, as deputy State conservationist for Arkansas.

Roget joined SCS in 1952 and succeeds William B. Davey, who was promoted to the Washington office as director of the Resource Development Division.

Williams has worked for SCS since 1948, and Johnson since 1935.

State conservationists are in charge of all SCS operations—administrative as well as technical—within the State.

GEORGE A. PARKS was recently appointed agricultural attaché in Bonn, West Germany, replacing Paul G. Minneman who is retiring.

In his new position, Parks will supervise agricultural reporting and export promotion.

Each year the United States exports about \$500 million worth of farm products to Germany, chiefly soybeans and soybean products, wheat, feed grains, tobacco, cotton, and poultry products. The United States imports from Germany mainly industrial products.

Since 1967, Parks has served as acting general sales manager for the Foreign Agricultural Service. Before that he served as deputy director for commodity programs; agricultural attaché to The Netherlands; and director of the Fats and Oils Division, FAS.

Parks joined USDA in 1937 in Oklahoma as an agricultural statistician.

Appointed recently as agricultural attaché to Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, is **VERLE E. LANIER**. He replaces Richard A. O. Schwartz who is returning to Washington, D.C.

Lanier joined USDA in 1964 as an administrative officer for the International Agricultural Development Service. Later, he served in Vietnam for a year and a half as an IADS country officer.

In his new position, Lanier will report on the agriculture of the Congo, supervise Public Law 480 food aid agreements and activities, and promote the commercial sale of U.S. agricultural products.

Another recent appointee to the agricultural attaché service is **NORMAN J. PETTIPAW** in Taipei, Taiwan.

Pettipaw will report on developments in Taiwanese agriculture and will promote U.S. agricultural exports to that country.

In 1967, the United States exported to Taiwan \$111 million worth of agricultural products, mainly cotton, wheat, soybeans, tobacco, tallow, and corn.



ONE WAY OF SAYING "THANKS"—Elinor A. Smith receives a certificate of merit from James S. Wood, assistant to the administrator, Rural Community Development Service. Miss Smith was commended for exceptional performance of administrative and clerical duties as an employee this summer in Washington, D.C.



PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's November list. Plentifuls are *turkeys, pork, potatoes, dry split peas, rice, and prunes.*

Pettipaw previously served as agricultural attaché in Rome, Tel Aviv, and Djakarta. He has been with USDA since 1954.

DR. HARLEY W. MOON was recently appointed research veterinarian at the National Animal Disease Laboratory, Ames, Iowa. He will be responsible for the research activities in pathology and cytology.

MEAT INSPECTORS ARE YOUR PROTECTORS

For about 50 cents a year, each American consumer is assured that the meat and poultry he buys is clean and wholesome.

To demonstrate their continuing activity to protect your health, inspectors with the Consumer and Marketing Service recently took these routine actions:

—They condemned 1,100 pounds of a 38,405-pound load of hog carcasses that were found to be off-condition.

—They condemned, because of contamination, 83 pounds of pork shoulder trimmings of a 4,380-pound lot whose containers had become ripped in handling and shipment.

—They rejected a rail shipment of beef carcasses at a meat plant, brought under inspection as a result of the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967, when the beef was found to be unsound because of a breakdown in the rail refrigerator unit.

—They condemned 650 pounds of diced beef containing metal particles that were deposited in the meat as a result of improperly installed dicing equipment.

—They refused entry into the United States of 238 cases of imported luncheon meat, found to contain excessive water.

—They condemned 36,720 pounds of canned spaghetti and meatballs when the cans were found to be unsound.

Agri Briefs

During fiscal 1968, more than 4,000 agriculturists came through the Department for training. First yearend figures show a 7-percent increase of foreign agriculturists handled by the INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE training division, while the number of USDA specialists serving on overseas missions increased by 40. The increased technical aid was concentrated in Africa and Asia, especially on soil and water projects in India, Pakistan, and Thailand; and on nutrition improvement projects in Tunisia.

North Dakota recently became the 10th State in the Nation to be declared "HOG CHOLERA FREE." Other States free of this costly swine disease are Alaska, Florida, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. The target date for a "hog cholera free" United States is 1972.

Secretary Freeman reported recently that the FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION loaned a record \$494 million to more than 56,000 rural families to purchase, construct, or improve their homes during fiscal 1968.

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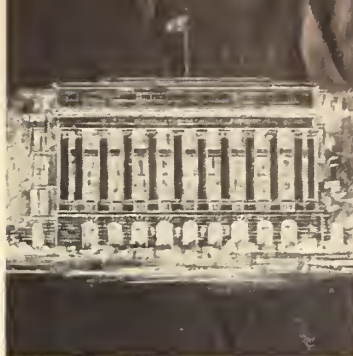
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MRS. COST REDUCTION, USDA

☆☆ For November 1968 ☆☆

Don't throw those sticky combination locks away! MRS. ALICE T. ANDERSON, office services assistant with the Foreign Agricultural Service in Washington, D.C., has discovered a way to make them work—and look—like new. The key to her success is a common household aerosol dust remover which contains no petroleum, wax, acids, or silicones. And it cleans the dust "like a magnet." Mrs. Anderson sprays some of the solution on the dial and into the shackle holes of a dust-clogged lock, usually clearing it immediately. For more difficult-to-clear locks, she allows the solution to penetrate overnight. After rejuvenating the locks, she carefully cleans each dial face with a small amount of household cleanser and a damp cloth. To date, Mrs. Anderson has used this method to rescue 90 combination locks at a savings of \$5.70 each. Her only failure was one lock which had been damaged mechanically. For tumbling onto this suggestion, Mrs. Anderson received a \$25 cash award through the Incentive Awards Program and a commendation from Secretary Freeman. This process can be used in recovering or maintaining locks of all types—even door locks and safes—in government offices, businesses, and homes. If this idea can be used in your organization, please contact your Employee Suggestions or Cost Reduction coordinator. You, too, can be a USDA COST REDUCER OF THE MONTH! All you need is a money-saving idea with potential for widespread adoption. Then tell us about it.

VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In Grand Prairie, Tex., about 15 miles from Dallas, two busy housewives use their cars to take needy people to the Dallas County food distribution center twice a month to pick up USDA donated foods.

This helping hand is a common American gesture, but often individuals and organizations don't know how or where to help. One solution is offered by USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service. In an effort to expand the reach and effectiveness of Federal food programs, C&MS is encouraging individuals and groups to help in getting food to needy people through the Food Stamp and Donated Foods Programs.

Some interesting examples—such as the one cited—are coming to light in communities where volunteers are at work.

In Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, Pa., neighborhood councils and centers provide transportation to recipients to take them to food stamp centers. In addition, the groups distribute food stamp literature by mail and by door-to-door campaign to potential families.

And, in St. Landry Parish, La., a housewife makes frequent checks with the food stamp office about eligibility of needy families. She asked the parish home demonstration agent to her home to conduct a nutrition education meeting for food stamp recipients. A series of similar meetings were later held in the recipients' homes.

These are but a few of many volunteer activities around the country. USDA is urging more people to get involved. The Department is working on the proposition that: Teamwork can help wipe out hunger.



Recently, 4-H REPORTERS TO THE NATION called on Dr. Lloyd Davis, administrator of the Federal Extension Service, during National 4-H Week. They are, left to right, Charles Mitchell, Missouri; Nancy Alward, New Hampshire; Tammy Turner, Mississippi; and Larry Brooks, Oklahoma. The reporters met with leaders in agriculture, government, education, business, and industry to discuss new trends and developments in 4-H, such as the rapid spread of 4-H work in towns and cities while remaining strong on farms. They stressed that 4-H is for youth wherever they live and whatever their backgrounds. The 4-H'ers were welcomed at the White House briefly by President and Mrs. Johnson and later visited with officials of the Federal City College which will supervise 4-H work when it starts in the District of Columbia. The team, which also went to New York, is one of several which have visited major cities during the past year as representatives of the 3¼ million 4-H members.



THE FELLOW IS A GIRL

Dr. Caro E. Luhrs, White House Fellow recently assigned to Secretary Freeman, is the first physician to serve as a White House Fellow and the only woman in this year's group.

Dr. Luhrs, a graduate of Swarthmore College, received her M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School. Internship and residency training in internal medicine were taken at the University of North Carolina.

She is a diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine and has been in clinical practice in the District of Columbia for the past 6 years. She is on leave of absence from Georgetown University Medical School where she was assistant professor of medicine and director of the hematology laboratories and blood bank at Georgetown Hospital.

A member of a national committee for cooperative research in medical education, Dr. Luhrs has helped develop new methods of teaching and testing medical students. She has been a frequent lecturer in postgraduate medical seminars for D.C. area physicians and dentists.

In addition to professional activities, Dr. Luhrs has a continued interest in music and art. She has sung with the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston and the American Light Opera Company and the Cathedral Choral Society in Washington, D.C. She has studied at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington.

Each year young men and women who have demonstrated outstanding leadership experience and potential are selected by the President to serve as White House Fellows. As Fellows they are assigned as special assistants to either a member of the Cabinet or a key White House staffer. In addition, the Fellows meet with the President and with national leaders in and out of Government.

Open House Features New Foods and Fashions

Visitors attending the recent Open House at USDA's Eastern utilization laboratory, Wyndmoor, Pa., were treated to tastes of new food products developed at the facility and at other Agricultural Research Service laboratories.

Among the foods sampled by the visitors were dry whole milk and apple cider preserved by ultraviolet irradiation. The milk is made by a vacuum process developed at the Wyndmoor laboratory. The advantages and versatility of dehydrated mushrooms, made by a process much less expensive than freeze-drying, and of a new shortening made by heat-treating butterfat were demonstrated for the guests.

Other features of the Open House included inspection of new facilities at the



Dr. B. Jean Apgar poses with the highly complex structural model of a NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE.

Yearbook Chapter Tells of Nobel Prize Work

Work which earned the 1968 Nobel Prize for Dr. Robert W. Holley is described in a chapter of the recently published 1968 Yearbook of Agriculture, *Science for Better Living*. Entitled "Mountain Climbing in a Laboratory," the chapter was written by Dr. B. Jean Apgar, research chemist with the Agricultural Research Service's Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory located on the Cornell University campus.

Dr. Apgar tells of her experiences as a member of the USDA-Cornell team, headed by Dr. Holley, which was successful in determining for the first time the structure of a nucleic acid. As explained by Dr. Apgar, nucleic acids are "the 'master plans' telling the body how to make muscles, bones, nerves, and everything else it must have." Determining the structure of these heredity-controlling molecules is "equivalent to getting the body's own formula for making hair or blood or many other things."

Dr. Holley, one of three men who share the 1968 award for physiology and medicine, was with ARS stationed at Cornell for all but the last year of the research. He then became a professor at Cornell and is now on leave for work at the Salk Institute, La Jolla, Calif. Dr. Apgar was a member of the team for the final 6 years of the project.

Another chapter in the 1968 Yearbook is authored by Artturi I. Virtanen of Finland, who received the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1945.

laboratory and a fashion show displaying the latest fashions in leather, cotton, and wool. Commentary accompanying the fashions described how these natural materials have been given exciting new properties and wearability through research at ARS laboratories.

Ten New Projects Join RC&D Program

In South Carolina, it's the Crossroads of History Area; in Arkansas, the Ozark Foothills Area; in Wisconsin, the Lumberjack Area. These colorful names denote three of the 10 areas recently authorized for planning assistance under the Resource Conservation and Development Program.

Involving 59 counties in 11 States, the new areas join 41 other RC&D projects currently underway. Locations of the 10 projects are:

Arkansas: Ozark Foothills Area—Randolph, Lawrence, Sharp, Izard, and Fulton Counties.

Colorado: Sangre de Cristo Area—Las Animas, Huerfano, Pueblo, Custer, and Fremont Counties.

Kansas: Kansas No. 1 Area—Pratt, Barber, Kingman, Harper, and Sumner Counties.

Massachusetts: Berkshire and Franklin Counties.

Michigan: Northwest Michigan Area—Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Osceola, and Wexford Counties.

Nevada: Central Nevada Area—Esmeralda and parts of Eureka, Lander, Nye, and Churchill Counties.

New Mexico: Southwest New Mexico Area—Hidalgo, Grant, and part of Catron Counties.

South Carolina: Crossroads of History Area—Cherokee, York, Lancaster, Chester, Fairfield, and Union Counties.

South Dakota-Wyoming: Black Hills Area—Custer, Lawrence, Pennington, Meade, Fall River, and Butte Counties in South Dakota; Crook, Niobrara, and part of Weston Counties in Wyoming.

Wisconsin: Lumberjack Area—Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano, Vilas, and Lincoln Counties.

RC&D projects, initiated and sponsored by local people, are aimed at promoting additional economic opportunities through accelerated conservation and development of natural resources.

USDA, by authority of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962, provides local sponsors with the technical assistance required to develop plans of action. Designated to administer the program for USDA, the Soil Conservation Service cooperates with local project leaders to coordinate and concentrate efforts to meet area needs and objectives.

In RC&D projects all interests in the area—rural, urban, and suburban—work together in the planning and operation of program activities.

Through the Department's Outreach program, other Federal agencies assist as needed.

COLORADO FARMER'S 'DREAM' IS ABOUT TO BE FULFILLED

Larry Amaya, a farmer of Latin American descent who once labored in the South Plains of Texas, is a dreamer with a winning set of combinations. With the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service, a Federal Land Bank loan, and \$8,000 in cash, he is turning 240 acres of irrigated land near Monte Vista, Colo., into his dream farm.

An SCS Great Plains Conservation Program contract was instrumental in helping to make his dream come true. The contract was developed through the Rio Grande Soil Conservation District.

Amaya and his wife Sandra had dreamed of owning their own farm for a long time. They got their chance in the fall of 1963 when they found a farm near Monte Vista and made the down payment. The money came from growing 15 acres of cotton and 10 acres of corn for several years.

Amaya, his wife, and five children moved to their new farm in 1965. Immediately they faced a new set of problems. The house was not modern. With financing arranged through the Production Credit Association, Amaya built a new house, and drilled a new domestic artesian well. Soon he realized that although the soils on his farm were good, he would need to level and revamp his irrigation system and acquire more water. He needed more water because the canal sometimes ran out before the end of the growing season.



After several visits with an SCS conservationist, Amaya made a plan and signed the Great Plains Conservation Program contract. He drilled his first irrigation well in the spring of 1966, a second in 1967. He also completed a 315-foot artesian well for stockwater that serves two 40-acre pastures.

In the spring of 1967, he leveled 80 acres of irrigated land and seeded it to a mixture of alfalfa and brome grass. Amaya's overall plan calls for seeding the entire 240 acres of land in 3 or 4 years. "We are planning for a flock of 300 ewes," he says.

To date, he has completed four-fifths of a mile of new interior fence to aid in pasture and hayland management, and he plans to build another one-half mile.

The Amayas have also built a new lambing shed and a new set of sheep corrals to serve the 300 ewes they plan to lamb each year. They have constructed a mile of new exterior boundary fence and have also improved the premises.

The Amayas have set a number of goals for themselves. They include plans for sending their oldest son to college in the fall of 1969 and laying the groundwork for educating the other children.

IMPERILED PARROTS FIND PROTECTORS

Birdwatchers of the world must travel to the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto Rico to visit the emerald green Puerto Rican parrot. A 3,000-acre preserve within the National Forest is the last refuge of the once-abundant species—now estimated to number only about 200.

Even this number, based on a study made in the early 1950's, may be overgenerous. Observations during the last decade suggest that the number of parrots has continued to decrease. Some experts think the total may be as low as 50; some say the species will not survive another decade without help and protection.

In the last century human encroachment has been heavy. Most of the natural forests have been cut, reducing or eliminating nesting sites. The birds have been hunted by man; nestlings have been captured for pets. Hungry predators and even the weather have taken their toll. Torrential rains occasionally fill the cavities in trees in

which the parrots nest, destroying the eggs and drowning the young.

However, help is on the way. Recently the Forest Service joined forces with the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, in a project to save the colorful, foot-long parrot from extinction.

Directing the project will be Dr. Cameron B. Kepler, ornithologist from Interior's Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife. Working with him will be Dr. Frank Wadsworth, director of the Forest Service's Institute of Tropical Forestry, and Senor Ricardo Cotte (*Santana*), the game management agent with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. It was Dr. Wadsworth's continuing effort that provided impetus to establish the project.

First step in the program will be an investigation to determine what the endangered bird needs to recover its numbers. More information will be sought on the bird's reproductive processes, nesting habits, food requirements, nat-



ural enemies, migration habits, and other elements on which survival depends.

If the aims of the new study are realized, factors limiting the parrot's survival will be identified and corrective measures can be taken before it is too late, Dr. Kepler predicted.

Agri Briefs

The New Mexico Federation of Women's Clubs recently **DONATED \$2,000 TO THE FOREST SERVICE** as an initial step in establishing a nature trail for visually and physically handicapped persons. Location of the trail will be in the Lincoln National Forest near Cloudercroft, N. Mex. Mrs. Ruth Bush Jones, regional director of women's activities for the Forest Service, Albuquerque, will coordinate the project. She will work with the Federation and the New Mexico State School for the Blind at Almodoro. As tentatively outlined, the nature trail will be similar to the Roaring Fork Blind Trail in the White River National Forest near Aspen, Colo., and the recently opened Touch and See Trail at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

Broad economic benefits and environmental improvements are evident in 800 communities where small watershed projects have been completed or are being installed. **WATERSHED ACTIVITIES** during fiscal year 1968 produced benefits that include an estimated \$27.5 million in flood damages prevented, \$17.1 million added to local payrolls through economic development, and 5,700 new jobs created. Benefits also include facilities for 1.2 million annual visitor-days of recreation and 11 new reservoirs serving 78,000 people in 11 communities. At least half of these benefits are in low-income areas. During the year, 46 projects were completed, bringing the total completed to 205 in 47 States.

The week of March 20-26, 1969, will find the Department emphasizing the pleasures and benefits that people of all ages and economic levels can find in well-kept lawns and flower and vegetable gardens. During **NATIONAL LAWN AND GARDEN WEEK**, the Department will join with other government groups, industry, garden clubs, youth groups, homeowners, and renters to make more Americans conscious of the pride that comes from well tended surroundings. And, efforts to improve the quality of the countryside and the inner city through the care of lawns, gardens, and public areas can increase the economic and social value of communities.

During fiscal 1968, the **SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE** provided training in the United States for 345 visiting conservation technicians from 52 countries. More than 150 were members of a group or team; the rest were on individual programs varying in length from a few days to several months. The foreign technicians spent a total of 5,851 man-days with SCS.

Each year about 500 **MILLION POUNDS** of popcorn-on-the-cob is consumed by U.S. moviegoers, baseball fans, television watchers, and others.

Students of a grain marketing course by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service learn of grain export elevator operations from Earl Knight (in armor). Knight is superintendent of Peavy Company's 3 million bushel facility on the Baltimore, Md., harbor. Taught by Prof. John Ragsdale, University of Missouri, and specialists from the grain trades, ASCS, and other USDA agencies, the 2-week course was attended by ASCS personnel working with price support activities.



SHORTCUT TO PASSPORTS. Vera Higuera, head of the foreign travel section in USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, appears delighted as she administers the oath of loyalty to passport applicant Ted J. Davis, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Marketing and Consumer Services. This is a new service recently instituted by the U.S. Passport Office which appointed two agents in the travel section to accept passport applications from USDA travelers. The shortcut service is a useful timesaver for Department employees planning to travel abroad.

AWARDS

Two USDA employees, **ROBERT W. NORTON** and **DAVID E. KETCHAM**, have been selected to participate in the 1968-69 Congressional Fellowship Program.

Norton is assistant to the director of information for the Consumer and Marketing Service in Washington, D.C., and Ketcham is supervisory entomologist, Northeastern Area of State and Private Forestry, Forest Service, Upper Darby, Pa.

The Fellowship program, which runs from mid-November until September 1969, is co-sponsored by the Civil Service Commission and the American Political Science Association.

The new Fellows will assume full-time assignments in congressional offices and with committees. They also will attend weekly seminars with Members of Congress and other Government officials.

IRWIN HORNSTEIN, chemist in the ARS Human Nutrition Research Division, Beltsville, Md., was recently elected vice-

APPOINTMENTS

Two appointments in the Agricultural Research Service Plant Pest Control Division were recently announced by Donald R. Shepherd, director. These are **JOSEPH F. SPEARS** as associate director and **JOSEPH W. GENTRY**, assistant director.

Spears, assistant director of PPC since December 1967, formerly served as chief staff officer for control operations. Before coming to Washington, D.C., in 1956, he helped organize the golden nematode control program on Long Island, N.Y. Spears, who joined USDA in 1946, is a native of Moreland, Ky., and received his B.S. degree from the University of Kentucky.

Gentry, who holds degrees from the University of North Carolina and George Washington University, joined USDA in 1947. He has worked on pest control and survey projects in the United States, Lebanon, and Tunisia. Gentry has served as chief staff officer for survey and detection operations and as staff specialist for program monitoring, safety, and program appraisals.

LOWELL H. WATTS, former director of Cooperative Extension Services at Colorado State University, recently assumed his duties as assistant administrator for administration of the Federal Extension Service.

Watts, a native of Colorado and graduate of CSU, joined the University staff in 1954 as director of information. In 1957 he was named secretary of the State Board of Agriculture and later as director of extension and coordinator of agricultural programs.

Active in many organizations and associations, Watts has served as secretary and chairman of the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy, and as a member of the Long Range Study Committee of USDA-National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges.

Watts' appointment fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Luke Schruben.

chairman of the Agricultural and Food Chemistry Division of the American Chemical Society.

USDA EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

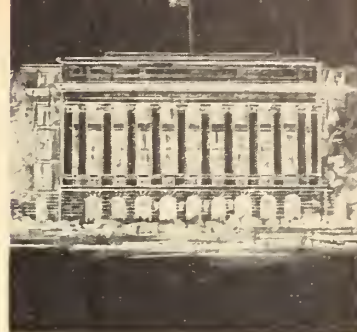
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EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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TO ALL MY FELLOW EMPLOYEES

Looking back, it doesn't seem possible that this is our eighth Christmas together. Time has passed so rapidly.

I am only sorry that I could not have met all of you. Yet, permit me to take this opportunity to express the sentiments which first occur to me in this holiday season.

Gratitude is preeminent in my mind. You have given yourselves so wholly to our common effort through the years, that any expression of thanks at this time seems inadequate. Yet, I must say "Thanks" and ask that you accept it with the sincerity with which it is offered.

I am proud of the successes that we have achieved together and of the effort that went into all of our work.

Through the years I will cherish our relationship, hoping always that God has held you gently in His hands, protecting you from adversity and opening roads to the happiness you so richly deserve.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE



MR. COST REDUCTION, USDA ★★ For December 1968 ★★

JOHN F. NIEBERGALL, Forest Service training officer, 10th Region (Alaska), was instrumental in forming an Interagency Training Committee comprised of representatives of 15 Federal agencies and departments (USDA, Interior, HEW, FAA, VA, etc.). The committee, which meets about six times a year, serves as a clearinghouse for the training needs of all Federal agencies in the Juneau, Alaska, area. The Civil Service Commission sends one or two instructors to Juneau rather than the agencies sending all trainees to other Northwestern States. Region 10 reports that training costs were reduced from \$190 per trainee in Fiscal Year 1967 to \$89 in Fiscal Year 1968. The number of trainees was increased from 90 to 129. This represents savings in excess of \$13,000. Similar savings were experienced by the other agencies. More important, though, is the fact that training opportunities were extended to many small agency personnel who would not otherwise have this benefit. The Civil Service Commission strongly urges all training and personnel officers to cooperate in planning and conducting programs to meet employee development needs. The President, in Executive Order 11348 (4/20/67), stressed more effective and efficient training programs for Federal employees. Interagency training committees, such as the one spearheaded by John Niebergall, are needed in all areas, especially remote locations away from large urban complexes. Niebergall received a commendation from Secretary Freeman for his initiative. The savings potential from following his example are boundless. We need your cost-cutting ideas, too. Don't hide them.

PLENTIFUL FOODS

USDA's January list. Plentifuls are: Potatoes, onions, canned tomatoes and tomato products, fresh oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, grapefruit juice, broiler-fryers, canned salmon, and dry beans.



THE FIRST NATIONAL Christmas tree from the State of Utah began a 2,250-mile journey in mid-November to its place of honor on the Ellipse between the White House and the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C. The 115-year-old Englemann spruce is from the Uinta National Forest. The growing site in rugged Daniels Canyon was only 18 miles from Heber City, birthplace of Edward P. Cliff, Forest Service chief. The 74-foot tree was trucked to Heber City, wrapped in a protective coat of 380 feet of burlap, and loaded aboard a flatcar for a journey east. It arrived in Washington the last week in November. It is the third Englemann spruce to grace the Ellipse since States began providing trees on an annual basis in 1954. Others came from New Mexico in 1956 and Montana in 1958. Last year's tree was a balsam fir from the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Ted Davis, Secretary Freeman, and Senator Spessard L. Holland of Florida (left to right) check one of the first Federal-State Market News reports on Florida cut flowers. The news service on cut flowers began reporting market information last year for producing areas in central coastal counties of California and the San Francisco terminal market. The service expanded this December to cover Florida and southern California and markets in Chicago and Dallas-Fort Worth. The Fruit and Vegetable Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, administers the service in cooperation with State agencies.



Denver C&MS Appointee Starts on Third Career

Charles W. (Chuck) Lilley, Denver, has started on his third career, with all the vigor and enthusiasm of a college lad on his first job.

With 7 years of Federal service already to his credit, he recently joined the Consumer and Marketing Service as officer-in-charge of the Consumer Food Programs field office, Denver.

Lilley will handle Federal responsibilities of the Colorado Food Stamp Program in 10 Denver-area counties. He also will counsel officers in other Colorado CFP offices and provide USDA liaison with co-operating State agencies.

From 1950 to July 1968 Lilley was director of School Food Service for the Colorado Department of Public Education.

During World War II, he served with USDA's food programs, including War Food, Farmers Home, and Production and Marketing Administrations

While still a youth, he operated a 21,000-acre ranch, part of the historic Table Mountain Ranch, Virginia Dale, Colo. At the same time, he was in charge of the Intermountain Livestock Marketing Association for a year.

Sandwiched among his full-time careers were numerous other efforts. He attended what is now Colorado State University; served in the Colorado Legislature; was president of Colorado Cattle-men's Association; a member of the State Board of Agriculture; president of local school board; assistant director of the Colorado Planning Commission; and national legislative chairman of State school food service directors.

What does he do in his spare time? Raises quarter horses on an irrigated farm just outside of Denver.



CHARLES W. LILLEY, left, receives a hearty "welcome aboard" from John J. Slaughter, Southwest director of C&MS' Consumer Food Programs, Dallas. Lilley, having already completed two careers, now is beginning his third as officer in charge of CFP's Denver field office.

What Blessings Water Systems Bring

When the Northside Water District in Warren County, Ky., received a Farmers Home Administration water system loan in 1964, little did it know what fruits the investment would bear. Now, 4 years later, here are some of the growth developments:

- A \$30 million Firestone plant employing 425 is firmly established.
- Wellington Electronic plant is established with 45 employees.
- A new \$2 million consolidated high school with 700 enrollment has been constructed.
- Some 200 new homes plus about 135 mobile homes have been added to the district.
- A machinery wholesale supply house employing six people has located in the district.
- A ready-mix concrete industry is a new employer of 15 people.
- Two new service stations are under construction.
- Under construction is a new motel that will employ about 40.

AREAS ADDED IN FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Secretary Freeman recently designated an additional 235 areas in 31 States to begin the Food Stamp Program this fiscal year.

An estimated 280,000 low-income people in these areas will be able to increase their food-buying power with food stamps for the first time. The new areas include 94 counties that have no USDA family food-help program, and a number of others with only partial food distribution programs.

Major cities such as Houston, Tex., Sacramento, Calif., Des Moines, Iowa, and Newark, N.J., are among the new areas, as are a great number of rural counties.

When operations start in the new areas and in 135 locations currently in the process of starting programs, well over 3 million people will be benefiting from food stamps in some 1,550 areas in 43 States and the District of Columbia. At the same time, another 3.5 million needy people will be getting USDA donated foods in counties and communities taking part in the Commodity Distribution Program.

Secretary Freeman said the new designations include all areas requested by State welfare agencies in a recent canvass by the Consumer and Marketing Service. He added that actual Federal expenditures will continue to be watched in the months ahead so that further designations can be considered as new requests are made.

Exact dates when the additional areas will begin issuing food stamps to low-income families will be announced locally.

FS Artist Illustrates Children's Christmas Book

The lively, appealing illustrations in a new children's book, "The City That Forgot About Christmas," are the work of noted Forest Service artist Rudolph Wendelin. The book, authored by Mary Warren of Presscott, Oreg., is a recent publication of Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo.

Wendelin joined the Forest Service in 1933 as a draftsman and illustrator. He worked in Milwaukee, Wis., until transferring to Washington, D.C., in 1937. He became associated with the Smokey Bear Forest Fire Prevention Program in 1946 and has won national recognition for his Smokey characterization and supporting material.

A native of Herndon, Kans., Wendelin attended the School of Architecture at the University of Kansas and art schools in Milwaukee and Washington, D.C.

Season's Greetings



HOUSING PLANS for low-income families in rural areas was the discussion topic at a recent meeting of the Wisconsin State Technical Action Panel at the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison. Speakers, including Thomas R. Pattison, Wisconsin State director of Farmers Home Administration and TAP State chairman, and John Nettleton, Madison, chief of FHA's real estate and rural housing section, discussed the low-cost housing provisions of the 1968 Housing Act. L. O. Anderson, housing research engineer at the Forest Service laboratory, described plans being prepared for low-cost housing. Above, Anderson, right, explains roof construction of an experimental house to Pattison, left, and Nettleton.

Conventions by Computer

Looking for an easy and accurate way to coordinate and plan a convention? Try a computer. That's what scientists at the Southern Utilization Research and Development Division of the Agricultural Research Service did.

Although their meetings are smaller than those held by larger organizations, the basic coordination and precision scheduling are still complex and costly.

Therefore, *L. W. Mazzeno, Jr., E. E. Coll, and S. T. Saucier* of the Southern laboratory in New Orleans turned to a computer. A comprehensive list of "things to do" are fed into the machine for each upcoming meeting.

Nearly a year before the convention date, the computer starts telling planners when and what must be done—on two lists. The first gives date, location, and the complete list of all events to be accomplished.

The second listing shows only what must be done within 10 days. The computer can also be programmed to give direct notices to the specific individuals responsible for carrying out each function.

The computer has been helping to plan conventions for the laboratory for the past year. It's been responsible for better coordination, staffers say, at a reduced cost. Estimated savings are \$1,500 a year.

Extension Service Outlines Action Plan

New directions for the Cooperative Extension Service were outlined in a report presented in November at the annual meeting of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges in Washington, D.C.

The report was prepared by a committee appointed by Secretary Freeman and the Association.

Committee member, *Lowell H. Watts*, Assistant Administrator of the Federal Extension Service, said the committee's concern centered upon the American community, stable economic growth, greater opportunities for individuals outside the mainstream of society, and international peace and economic development.

He said the study requires close working relationships with other departments of the Federal Government, with all colleges in the land-grant system, and with city and county governments.

Secretary Freeman pledged at the meeting the support of USDA to help carry out the objectives.

That Was Her Bag!

A teenager arriving in New Orleans as an air passenger from El Salvador was asked by USDA Plant Quarantine Inspector *Carl Schlueter* to present a small wicker-type purse for inspection. She refused. After some friendly persuasion from Inspector Schlueter, the girl consented to the purse's inspection. It was found to contain one small parrot and

USDA Presents Conservation Awards

Extensive, long-range conservation plans for six campsites, the planting of more than 20,000 trees and shrubs, and conservation training courses for boys and adults are some activities of the Allegheny Trails Boy Scout Council, Pittsburgh, Pa. These and other conservation activities make up a program which won for the Council the coveted Gold Seal Award for 1967. Presentation of the award was made recently by *Ralph Freeman*, supervisor of the Allegheny National Forest, in behalf of Secretary Freeman.

The award, for excellence in conservation achievements, is presented annually under the USDA Council Conservation Awards Program to one of 520 Boy Scout Councils in the Nation.

An award recognizing outstanding conservation practices is also made annually to one council in each of the 12 Boy Scout regions. Known as the Green Seal Awards, these are presented by representatives of the Soil Conservation Service and the Forest Service on behalf of the Secretary. Both agencies cooperate with the Boy Scouts' National Conservation Committee in the awards program. On a local level they work with individual troops and councils in technical and advisory capacities.

Green Seal winners for 1967 are:

Region II—Ridgewood and Glen Rock Council, Ridgewood, N.J.

Region III—West Branch Council, Williamsport, Pa.

Region IV—Firelands Area Council, Sandusky, Ohio

Region V—Pine Burr Area Council, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Region VI—Coastal Carolina Council, Charleston, S.C.

Region VII—Kikthawenund Area Council, Anderson, Ind.

Region VIII—Santa Fe Trail Council, Garden City, Kans.

Region IX—Yucca Council, El Paso, Tex.

Region X—Red River Valley Council, Fargo, N. Dak.

Region XI—North Central Montana Council, Great Falls, Mont.

Region XII—San Mateo County Council, San Mateo, Calif.

There was no award in Region I.

three hog plums. The prohibited fruit was removed and destroyed; the Public Health duty officer refused entry of the bird, which was returned to El Salvador by the airline; and the teenager and her purse were allowed entry.

Nutrition by "Prescription"

To help safeguard low-income mothers and young children against nutritional deficiencies, a pilot program of supplementary food donations was inaugurated recently in Decatur, Ga., by *Rodney E. Leonard*, Administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service.

The project, operated through the C&MS family food donation program, is the first of several pilot programs expected to reach 225,000 expectant and nursing mothers, infants, and young children by the summer of 1969.

Because of the extreme vulnerability of low-income groups to health problems and nutritional deficiencies, USDA and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare's Children's Bureau developed the program to provide nutritious food on an individual "prescription" basis.

Medical staffs of clinics and health centers serving low-income families will write "prescriptions" for the kinds and amounts of supplementary foods they find necessary to meet the health and nutrition needs of mothers, infants, and young children. The "prescription" is filled free at local distribution centers.

Leonard pointed out that the new food program, administered cooperatively by Federal, State, and local agencies, is not limited to areas operating USDA's Commodity Distribution Program. It will also be available to Food Stamp Program areas, and areas without any USDA food program. He said women and children within the target group who are eligible for free medical care, food, or welfare help are automatically considered eligible for supplemental foods, if medical authorities find they need it.

Berg Designated Associate Administrator of SCS

Secretary Freeman recently selected *Norman A. Berg* as associate administrator of the Soil Conservation Service.

Berg, presently SCS deputy administrator for field services, will take over the post in January. He replaces *Kenneth E. Grant*, who was recently named administrator of SCS.

A native of Burlington, Iowa, Berg received a B.S. degree in agricultural education from the University of Minnesota in 1941. He joined SCS in 1943 at Downey, Idaho, and served at various headquarters in that State, becoming area conservationist in 1952. After receiving his masters degree in public administra-



BALD EAGLES OF southeast Alaska are insured greater protection under an agreement signed recently by the Forest Service and the Department of Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Major feature of the agreement is the close cooperation of the two agencies in protecting the nest trees in areas where timber sales, road construction, or other operations by man are planned. Agreement terms will be carried out through the offices of W. Howard Johnson, Forest Service regional forester, Juneau, Alaska, and the game management agent-in-charge for Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Based on a 1966 study, the population of nesting bald eagles in southeast Alaska is estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000—the largest concentration of the species. The total number of bald eagles is unknown; 2,772 were counted in the 48 contiguous States in a study conducted earlier this year.

USDA and HUD Join in Rural Housing Effort

Secretary Freeman and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development *Robert C. Weaver* recently signed a comprehensive agreement under which the Department of Agriculture will administer in rural areas significant new authorities to upgrade housing. These authorities are provided by the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

The agreement, authorized by Congress, is an extension of the "outreach" function of USDA that puts rural people in touch with services provided by other government agencies.

Secretary Freeman designated the Farmers Home Administration to act as agent for HUD's Federal Housing Administration in making available to rural residents that agency's interest supplement loans authorized by the new law.

Interest-supplement loans are designed to assist families in the lower income group in obtaining adequate housing. They will be funded by local private lenders at Federal Housing Administra-

tion interest rates. Loans will be available for purchase of either new or renovated houses or for construction of individual homes.

In cases where families do not have enough monthly income to meet the full monthly interest payment on the loans funded by private sources, part of the interest can be paid by the Federal credit agency.

A two-part formula will be applied to determine whether an applicant qualifies for an interest supplement. The formula is based on the size of family and total income as compared with the amount of prospective annual installments of principal, interest, real estate taxes and insurance.

In further pursuit of the "outreach" function, the Farmers Home Administration also will assist rural individuals and groups in planning and developing applications to the Federal Housing Administration for mortgage insurance for rental and cooperative housing.

tion from Harvard University in 1956, he was named assistant State conservationist in South Dakota. He served there until 1960 when he was promoted to the Washington office.

He became deputy administrator for field services in July 1965, after serving in various special assistant capacities to the administrator.

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A TALE OF TRAILS

When President Johnson signed the National Trails System into law October 2, more than half of the system was already available for hikers in National Forests under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service.

The first units of the trail system are the 2,313-mile Pacific Crest Trail—stretching from Canada to Mexico along mountain ranges of the Pacific Coast—and the 2,000-mile Appalachian Trail—reaching from north central Maine to northern Georgia.

The Pacific Crest Trail will be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Forest Service, in cooperation with the National Park Service. The Appalachian Trail will be administered by the Secretary of Interior, through the Park Service, in cooperation with the Forest Service. Both Secretaries will arrange for joint studies of 14 other trails being considered for the national system.

The Pacific Crest Trail in the Cascade Mountains of Washington and Oregon and the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California runs through 25 National Forests. Of the total mileage, 1,599 is in National Forests—430 miles in Washington, 334 in Oregon, and 835 in California.

The Appalachian Trail weaves through 14 States. Eight National Forests along the route contain 507 miles of the trail.

The Forest Service was instrumental in establishment of both trails. As early as 1920, the Forest Service began surveys of trails along sections of what was to become the Pacific Crest. It continued its activities on building new sections until the entire length was passable by 1937. The Appalachian Trail was started in 1922 by private groups and also completed in 1937, with the Forest Service as an active partner in the project.

USDA, industry, and garden club representatives have accepted a symbol for NATIONAL LAWN AND GARDEN WEEK, March 20-26, 1969. The symbol is an abstract of a flower formed by the words, "Growing With America."



ROY F. HENDRICKSON, 1903-1968

Roy F. Hendrickson, 65, executive secretary of the National Federation of Grain Cooperatives since 1946 and a former administrator in the Department, died of a heart attack November 2 near Burley, Idaho. Private funeral services were held on November 6 in Iowa.

"With the death of Roy Hendrickson," Secretary Freeman stated, "the Department of Agriculture lost a good friend who understood its aims and programs and gave them his unstinting support."

Hendrickson was born on a farm near St. Ansgar, Iowa. Following his graduation from St. Olaf College, he worked as a newspaperman in Iowa and as the Associated Press farm news reporter in Washington, D.C.

For 11 years of President Franklin Roosevelt's administration, Hendrickson held top policy-making jobs in the Department. He served as assistant to the Secretary; director of personnel; administrator of Agricultural Marketing Administration, Surplus Marketing Administration, and Food Distribution Administration; deputy war food administrator; and president of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation.

He left the Department in 1944 to become deputy director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Roy F. Hendrickson Scholarship Fund, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

How much of your food-store dollar goes for food?

About 77 cents, according to a recent study by the Cooperative Extension Service of Purdue University. Of the 77 cents, about 23.5 cents goes for meat; 9 cents for fresh produce; 10 cents for dairy products; 4 cents for frozen foods; and 30.5 cents for groceries. Milk claims the largest portion of the dairy dollar.

To help make the most of your food-store dollar, the Consumer and Marketing Service each month publishes a list of foods expected to be plentiful. C&MS enlists the aid of the food industry to publicize these foods and to bring them to the food buyers' attention. USDA economists and marketing specialists throughout the Nation consider many hundreds of production facts and estimates before recommending a plentiful foods list.

USDA's Food Shoppers Guide is a weekly service to consumers through the Nation's press and wire services. It reports on foods that may be "abundantly available," or just merely "in good supply," in the respective States and nationally for the coming weekend.

MATTHEWS APPOINTED RCDS ADMINISTRATOR

Secretary Freeman has designated Donald Ray Matthews as administrator of the Rural Community Development Service. Matthews served as deputy administrator of RCDS from January 1967 until September 1967 when he was named as acting administrator.

Prior to coming to the Department, Matthews served for 14 years in Congress as a Representative of the 8th District of Florida, his native State. He served in the Florida Legislature as Representative from Alachua County and was an educator in the Florida public school system.

He is a recipient of awards as an educator and has been active in a wide variety of civic and fraternal organizations.

Advisory Committee To Discuss Dual Role

The first meeting of a newly consolidated National Food Inspection Advisory Committee will be held in Washington, D.C., Dec. 17-18.

The advisory committee was established by Secretary Freeman last March to promote Federal-State cooperation in the inspection of red meat products, as provided for in the Wholesome Meat Act of 1967. On Oct. 28, Secretary Freeman expanded the committee's responsibilities to include the additional role of helping to implement the Wholesome Poultry Products Act of 1968.

In this new dual role, the committee—whose members include 17 heads of State agriculture or health departments—will consult with officials of USDA's Consumer and Marketing Service in the administration of Federal and State inspection programs for both meat and poultry products.

Responsibilities of the committee include evaluating State inspection programs, obtaining close coordination and uniformity among the State programs and between Federal and State programs, and adequate protection of consumers.

Chairman of the committee is *Rodney E. Leonard*, administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service. Vice chairman is *Robert K. Somers*, deputy administrator for consumer protection, C&MS; and executive secretary is *H. M. Steinmetz*, assistant deputy administrator for consumer protection, C&MS.

Other members of the committee are:

Phillip Alampi, secretary, New Jersey Department of Agriculture; *Phil Campbell*, commissioner, Georgia Department of Agriculture; *Doyle Conner*, commissioner, Florida Department of Agriculture; *Dexter D. Davis*, commissioner, Missouri Department of Agriculture; *Charles P. Ellington*, director, services and control programs, Maryland State Board of Agriculture; *Joseph H. Francis*, chairman, Utah State Board of Agriculture; and *Donald N. McDowell*, director, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture.

Also, *W. F. Moss*, commissioner, Tennessee Department of Agriculture; *Ira L. Myers*, State health officer, Alabama Department of Public Health; *John P. Orcutt*, commissioner, Colorado Department of Agriculture; *Dave L. Pearce*, commissioner, Louisiana Department of Agriculture; *James E. Peavy*, commissioner, Texas State Department of Health; *Robert M. Schneider*, director, Illinois Department of Agriculture; *Stanley I. Trenhaile*, commissioner, Idaho Department of Agriculture; *Don J. Wickham*, commissioner, New York



THE GOLDEN SMOKEY, the Nation's top fire prevention award, went this year to the Fire Weather Service of the U.S. Weather Bureau. Sponsored by the Advertising Council, Inc., the National Association of State Foresters, and the Forest Service, the 1968 award recognizes outstanding service by the Fire Weather Service meteorologists at more than 50 stations across the country. In making the announcement of the award, Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff cited the fire weather specialists for contributions beyond normal requirements in alerting the public to forest fire danger, through special messages in newspapers, radio, and television broadcasts. Award of the 9-inch gilded statuette of Smokey Bear has been made 20 times in past years but only twice to Government agencies—the Post Office Department in 1960 and the National Zoological Park of the Smithsonian Institution in 1967.

DeCLARK TO HEAD HIGHWAY ENGINEER GROUP

Ronald R. DeClark, a computer systems analyst in the Forest Service, Washington, D.C., has become the first Federal employee ever to be elected president of the Highway Engineer Exchange Program.

The organization is made up of representatives of local, State, and national government and educational institutions engaged in highway engineering, using electronic computers. It boasts membership across both the United States and Canada. In the 10-year history of the organization, the presidents have all been State employees.

The group promotes the exchange of electronic computer programs and basic concepts of systems development for highway and bridge engineering.

As its new president, DeClark will direct business of the organization for the next year and will coordinate plans for a convention to be held in Washington, D.C., next September.

DeClark, a native of Idaho, attended Portland State College in Oregon and formerly worked for the Bureau of Public Roads.

Department of Agriculture and Markets; *Herald G. Wixom*, assistant director, animal industry, California Department of Agriculture; and *A. O. Wilson*, president, Montana Livestock Sanitary Board.

FAR FLUNG MISSIONS PROMOTE EXPORT TRADE

The Near East, the Far East, Europe, and Oceania are on the itinerary of three USDA export trade missions operating during November and December. The missions, with focus on promoting the sale of soybeans, feed grains, cotton, and tobacco, are part of the Department's continuing export development program.

In announcing the objectives of the visits, Secretary Freeman said, "Through the trade mission approach, we intend to take a new, fresh inventory of export sales problems we face, learn more about our customers' interests and our competition, and reaffirm our ability and intention to sell actively in these markets."

Like former trade missions, each of the current 3-week missions is composed of representatives from Government, trade, and producer groups.

Horace D. Godfrey, administrator of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, is the leader of the seven-man tobacco trade team. This group will visit New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, and Israel.

The 10-man soybean-feed grain team will travel to Spain, Italy, West Germany, Yugoslavia, Denmark, Belgium, and the United Kingdom. Team leader is *James A. Hutchins, Jr.*, acting general sales manager of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

The cotton trade mission is divided into two five-man teams. One team will visit Austria, Belgium, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia. Leader is *Joseph A. Moss*, director, cotton policy staff, ASCS. The second group, led by *Grover C. Chappell*, staff economist, Office of the Secretary, will be in India, Indonesia, Japan, The Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand.

That's About the Size of It

Clearing wooded areas on National Forests for special-use permits, such as construction of pipelines or powerlines, sometimes requires the sale of timber from tracts of unusual dimensions.

The proposed construction of a Navy communications antenna on the Chequamegon National Forest in Wisconsin may set a record for "odd dimensions sales," according to Forest Service timber managers. The antenna, with overhead and buried cables, radiates in four directions from a central transmitter building.

The tract surveyed for sale involves an area approximately 35 miles long by one tree wide.



SCHOOL LUNCH SUPERVISOR ROBERT J. NELSON, in the Midwest district office of Consumer Food Programs, C&MS, Chicago, was on hand to check consumer opinion of a NEW USDA PROGRAM recently initiated in Gary, Ind. Here he discusses the program—the Nation's first food service for day-care children—with a young participant.

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM INAUGURATED IN INDIANA

Seen as a "new dimension in child nutrition," the Nation's first food service for day-care children was launched recently in Gary, Ind., by Assistant Secretary *Ted J. Davis* and Gary's Mayor *Richard G. Hatcher*.

Breakfast service at the John Stewart Settlement House and lunch for preschoolers at the Alerding Settlement House were made possible with cash and donated foods from USDA. The program, authorized by a 1968 amendment to the National School Lunch Act, will help public and nonprofit private agencies improve nutrition for children in non-school group activities.

"Today's events fulfill a promise of better nutrition for preschool youngsters from needy homes who have had to wait until they were old enough for school to benefit from Federally assisted lunch and breakfast programs," Davis said.

The nonschool food service program, launched on a pilot basis, is administered nationally by the School Lunch Division of the Consumer and Marketing Service in cooperation with State departments of education.

Surveys Show Negro Graduates Favor Jobs in Government

Two independent surveys reflect the scope and success of government recruiting at predominantly Negro colleges.

College Placement Services, Inc., surveyed 51 such colleges to learn that 656 of their 1967 graduates accepted government jobs—mainly Federal—and only 85 more accepted jobs in all of business and industry. More than half of those who entered government were women.

While Federal employment represents

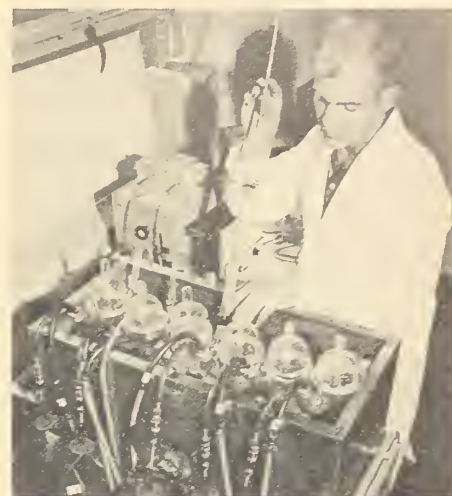
You've never seen a purple cow? How about a glass cow?

Sgt. Roy E. Grunwald, an Army sergeant on active duty, feeds a "glass cow" as part of an experiment being conducted at the Agricultural Research Center in Beltsville, Md.

Sgt. Grunwald, who is from Cleveland, Wis., is USDA's first volunteer under Project Transition, a program designed to expand job skills of servicemen who are to be discharged from active duty within 6 months. The idea is to ease the transition to civilian life for men whose military specialty has limited application to nonmilitary occupations. The sergeant's major military training is in light weapons operations—a skill that helped him block enemy infiltration routes in Vietnam but of small value in civilian work.

The glass cow that Sgt. Grunwald tends is part of a study on livestock digestive systems by the Agricultural Research Service. The experimental program, directed by Dr. Leonard L. Slyter, ARS microbiologist, helps scientists learn how best to use green feeds to produce milk and meat efficiently. Using a glass cow instead of a live one enables scientists to conduct experiments without discomfort to a living animal.

While participating in the 4-month training at Beltsville, the sergeant is still under full jurisdiction of his commanding officer at Ft. Meade, Md. If



ARMY SERGEANT ROY E. GRUNWALD feeds a "glass cow" in an experiment being conducted by ARS. Grunwald is receiving training in laboratory work as USDA's first volunteer under Project Transition.

military duties require Sgt. Grunwald's services, they take precedence over his training for civilian life.

Project Transition, initiated as a pilot program in 1967, commenced at all major military establishments in the United States in January 1968. It provides for formal education at schools and universities, practical training in specialized skills, and on-the-job experience, such as USDA is furnishing.

ARS plans to expand its participation in the project.

Alaskan Villagers To Have Electricity

Some 20,000 Alaskans—primarily Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts—will receive electric service for the first time under a loan allocation of \$5.2 million made recently by the Rural Electrification Administration.

These people live in 50 widely scattered villages in isolated areas of Alaska.

The loan to the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc., Anchorage, will finance: 52 diesel generating plants with a combined capacity of 9,560 kilowatts; 97 miles of distribution line; 55 miles of new tie line; and headquarters facilities.

REA anticipates that the first few villages provided for under the loan will have the benefits of electric service this winter and that service to the others will be extended in the following years.

For several years the REA has been working with State and Federal agencies to develop a feasible plan for providing electric service in the remote native villages. The Alaska Village Electric Cooperative was organized to carry out plans developed by REA, the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Labor, and the State of Alaska.

The cooperative will be owned and operated by the people in the villages receiving the electric service. Programs of the participating agencies are designed to provide management, training, educational, technical, and administrative assistance to the cooperative; and to assist in the development of the economic resources of the villages.

less than 4 percent of total employment, CPS found that about 20 percent of the recruiters visiting the 51 colleges were from government agencies, again mostly Federal.

The National Opinion Research Center found generally that more students at predominantly Negro colleges expected to be employed in the Federal Government than in business and industry.

AWARDS

For his suggestion of a new concept of real estate appraisals, G. LEONARD DALSTED of the Farm Ownership Loan Division, Farmers Home Administration, recently received a cash award of \$1,450. This is the largest cash award ever made by FHA for an employee suggestion under the Incentive Awards Program.

According to the award certificate, Dalsted's suggestion resulted in a revised appraisal system that is "more suitable to full range of real estate properties appraised, gives primary emphasis to the market, is easier to understand, and provides a more accurate method of arriving at the value of the property."

In making the presentation, FHA Administrator Howard Bertsch emphasized that the award was in recognition of Dalsted's idea rather than for the considerable savings that have resulted since its adoption by FHA in 1965. On April 2, 1968, President Johnson presented a merit award to Dalsted for the economy effected by the new appraisal system—estimated at \$400,000 the first year.

Dalsted, who joined the Washington Farm Ownership staff in 1964, has worked with FHA since 1939. He served as both a county and State staff official in North Dakota and in 1962 was assistant State director and program chief when he made his award-winning suggestion.

DR. HAROLD P. LUNDGREN, chief of the USDA Wool and Mohair Laboratory, Albany, Calif., recently was awarded the Olney Medal of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists. The Olney Medal, the Association's highest scientific award, recognizes outstanding contributions in textile chemistry.

Dr. Lundgren has directed the Wool and Mohair Laboratory since its beginning in 1948. Research ranging from studies of internal structure of fibers to new treatments for easy-care wool is conducted under his leadership. Among achievements at the laboratory are chemical processes for treating machine-washable wool, durable-press treatments for military uniforms, and new soil-resistant finishes for wool.

Dr. Lundgren completed work for a doctoral degree in chemistry at the University of Minnesota in 1935, when he was 24 years of age. He spent 2 years at the University of Uppsala, Sweden, and was a research associate at the University of Wisconsin for 4 years before joining the Western Utilization Research and Development Division in Albany in 1941.

Recognized as an international authority on wool, Dr. Lundgren was recently selected as chairman of the 4th International Wool Conference to be held in 1970.

DONALD R. STOKES, an investigation leader in the Agricultural Research Service's Transportation and Facilities Research Division, Beltsville, Md., has received The Packer's annual Packaging and Marketing Award.

Each year, The Packer, a national food industry publication, honors individuals



who make outstanding contributions to the industry.

Stokes was praised for his work in improving handling techniques for packaged produce and related research, and for his work internationally on shipping container programs.

In award ceremonies during the annual convention of the Produce Packaging and Marketing Association in San Francisco, Stokes was presented the award by The Packer's publisher who cited him as "a living symbol of the type of know-how needed in the industry."

In past years, Stokes has received industry awards from the Food Packing Council, the Produce Packaging Association, and the American Marketing Association. Also, he has earned two Government awards.

Two Agricultural Research Service scientists, the ARS Fruit and Vegetable Laboratory, and the Florida Citrus Commission recently shared in a certificate of commendation by Florida Citrus Mutual. The citation praises the development of the "Jiffy Orange Tab," a new use for Florida citrus.

DR. MATHEW K. VELDHUIS and DR. ROBERT E. BERRY developed the orange juice tablets at the Fruit and Vegetable Laboratory, Winter Haven, Fla., during efforts to improve the solubility of citrus crystals. It is hoped that the new orange juice tablets will soon be produced commercially.

CHARLES CONNAUGHTON, Regional forester for the Pacific Northwest Region, Portland, Oreg., was honored recently by the Society of American Foresters. He was awarded the Society's Sir William Schlich Memorial Award for his outstanding achievements in forestry.

Connaughton, a veteran of over 40 years of service with the Forest Service, was Regional forester of the California

Agri Briefs

A snack of sufu and crackers may be the TASTE TREAT OF THE FUTURE. For centuries the Chinese have been making sufu, a soybean cheese. But it remained for scientists to develop a fool-proof method of producing the soft, pale yellow cheese with no undesirable off-flavor, beany taste. Research to develop a tastier sufu was conducted by N. S. Wai of the Academy of Science, Taiwan, under a Public Law 480 grant from the Agricultural Research Service. Dr. C. W. Hesseltine, ARS microbiologist with the Northern utilization research laboratory, Peoria, Ill., was the sponsoring scientist. Hesseltine reports that by using production methods tested and modified by Wai, popular flavors such as garlic, wine, and pepper can also be easily incorporated into the soy cheese.

FARMER COOPERATIVES announced new construction valued at nearly \$32 million for the third quarter of 1968. All but one of the 37 new facilities are located outside metropolitan areas. The quarterly summary, compiled by the Farmer Cooperative Service, includes major construction costing \$500,000 or more. The construction is either planned, in progress, or recently completed. This is the sixth report since Secretary Freeman asked farmer co-ops to give special consideration to locating new facilities in rural areas. In that 18-month period, the co-ops constructed nearly a quarter billion dollars worth of facilities with about 85 percent in rural locations.

A recently issued book prepared by the President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty includes descriptions of USDA programs and about 40 USDA photographs. Entitled FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA, the report outlines America's environmental needs and offers recommendations for action. A USDA working party on outdoor recreation and landscape beautification helped to prepare and review drafts of the 304-page publication. The publication is on sale for \$2.50 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20102.

Region, San Francisco, Calif., for 12 years before going to Portland in 1967. Prior to that he was with the Southern Region headquartered in Atlanta, Ga.

In recognition of his outstanding research in meteorology and climatology, DR. PAUL E. WAGGONER, head of the Department of Soils and Climatology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, was recently named a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy. He has been on the station's staff since 1951.

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